OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER IN THE STATE.

Circulation Larger than ever before, and steadily and rapidly increasing.

THE MORNING STAR.

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Delivered to Subscribers in the City at 15 Cents per Month.

The Morning Star.

OUTLINES.

Canadian cotton mills are doing a lively trade, and knitting mills people talk of advancing prices of their products. —— The Populist State committee of Alabama have called a convention to nominate a full State ticket; a strong bid will be made for Republican support. —— Cotton mills at New Bedford, Mass., I give notice of a reduction of wages of operatives. —— Fire at Lebanon, Tenn., caused losses aggregating $75,000; insurance, $70,000 —— Dun's review of trade shows failures in 1897 to be smaller in. total liabilities than in any other year since 1892, while the volume of business has been larger; the iron industry is marked by increased demand, and heavy exports of wheat continue; the cotton industry is halted by the question of wages, a general reduction of which seems probable.—The crew of a Mexican gunboat took forcible possession of Clipperton island on the Pacific coast over which the American flag was hoisted, —— An alleged conspiracy against Spanish rule in Cuba is said to have been discovered in Pinar del Rio province; innumerable human beings are dying in the island of hunger and neglect. —— Agents of leading cotton manufacturing firms in Rhode Island have decided to reduce wages; the cut down will take effect January 17th, and will average eleven per cent. —— The world's product of gold in 1897 will approximate $240,000,000; total visible supply of cotton 4,271,622 bales, against 4,244,733 at same time last year. —— The Senatorial skirmish in Columbus, Ohio, is at its height; developements are decidedly favorable to Hanna, on the surface at least —— There is great activity in the navy yards at Hong Kong, China. —— A disastrous snow storm prevailed yesterday in Pittsburg. —— A blizzard prevails throughout Western New York. —— Fourteen inches of snow at Clearfield, Pa.; all trains are late. —— Mail box robbers operating in Cleveland, Ohio, have stolen about $60,000 in checks and drafts. —— Gov. Culbertson, of Texas, announces himself a candidate for United States Senator. —— Hon. W. J. Bryan has returned to San Antonio from his visit to Mexico. —— New York markets: Money on call firm at 3½@4 per cent. and closed at 3½@4 per cent.; cotton quiet, middling 5 15-16c; flour neglected and nominally unchanged; wheat, spot firm; corn steady, No. 2 35c; rosin steady, strained, common to good $1 40 to 1 45; spirits turpentine easy at 33½ to 33¾.

The Weather.

U. S. DEP'T OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU, WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.

Meteorological data for yesterday:

Temperature: 8 a. m., 52 deg.; 8 p. m., 49 deg.; maximum, 63 deg.; minimum, 49 deg.; mean, 56 deg.

Rainfall for the day, 01; rainfall since 1st of month up to date, 4.38 feet.

LOCAL FORECAST.

Partly cloudy weather, decidedly colder; northwest gales.

Czar and Kaiser are other forms of the title Cæsar. They are both playing the role of seizer now in China.

The edge tool men have formed a Trust. They think they are playing a sharp game. Cutting remarks will be in order, but they won't mind that.

With England's and Japan's combined 800 warships and torpedo boats they can make things lively for Russia and Germany on the Chinese coast.

The agent of the Government has seized and closed up a funny paper in Germany. Being funny in Germany these days is a very serious business for an editor.

Mark Hanna will cease to be a U. S. Senator on the 1st of January as under the laws of Ohio the period for which he was appointed expires with the meeting of the Legislature.

A demented stranger tried to drown his cares by jumping into the Chicago river. He didn't know how thick it was and felt very bad when they pulled him out and washed the water off his clothes.

It is said that Howard Gould will lose half his fortune, leaving him only $5,000,009, if he marries Katherine Clemmons, the actress. Well, if she is a nice girl, he will be pretty well fixed, and can manage with reasonable economy, and some little industry to live pretty comfortably on that.

Commissioner of Pensions, Evans, is making war on the Pension attorneys. The next thing Commissioner Evans will discover, if he isn't careful, is that the pension attorneys will be making war on him, and make it hot for him. Commissioner Lochren had some experience on that line.

Actor Ratcliffe, of New York, who exercised himself by beating his wife and amused himself with pelting her with hard-boiled eggs, will not have any more of that kind of fun for at least six months, which he will spend in the penitentiary without his wife.

THE MORNING STAR.

A "Happy New Year" is the greeting of THE MORNING STAR to its readers to-day.

The day is auspicious. It is a day when we all "turn over a new leaf" in the book of Time. It is the beginning of a year that will witness the overthrow of the political hucksters who are now despoiling our grand old State. It is a day, too, for holiday attire. We, therefore, signalize it by presenting THE MORNING STAR to its thousands of readers in a new dress from head to foot.

We trust that, in appearance, at least, it may be a "bright particular STAR; that it may win the approbation of the thousands who will scan its pages to-day; and that it may be successful in retaining the liberal support that has enabled it to hold its place so long in the hearts of a generous people.

As we have not been accustomed to trying the patience of our readers with "shop talk," we trust they will pardon us for a moderate indulgence in that editorial weakness to-day.

More than thirty years since, THE MORNING STAR was founded by the present owner and editor, and during all that long period there has been no change in the name, ownership or editorial management of the paper. The writer is, therefore, in continuous service, the oldest member of the editorial profession on the Daily Press of the State; and we are inclined to think this applies as well to the Weekly Press, unless our distinguished contemporary, Col. R. B. Creecy, of the Elizabeth City *Economist*, be an exception.

During its long and eventful career, THE MORNING STAR has conscientiously labored for what it considered to be the best interests of North Carolina. Through the dark days of "Reconstruction," and since, it has been unswervingly Democratic, contributing whatever of energy and ability it possessed to the success of its party and its principles. That its party services and its efforts to give the people of North Carolina a conservative and reliable newspaper have been, in a measure at least, appreciated, is evidenced by the fact that its regular, *bona fide* circulation is now larger, and is increasing more steadily and more rapidly, than at any previous period of its history. To deserve this gratifying and continued support will be the highest aspiration of THE MORNING STAR.

To one and all, the compliments of the season. "May you live long and prosper."

After the reported "pardon" of Gen. Rivera, who succeeded Maceo in Cuba, the Spaniards have taken him to Cadiz, Spain, and incarcerated him there. They were probably afraid that if they left him on the island he might break out of prison and give them some more trouble. He was born in Spain but went to Cuba in 1863, where he served through the ten years war against Spain.

When the Governor gets "hot in the collar" and wishes to be rid of the presence of an unwelcome visitor he might tell him to "go to Klondike." He would then avoid the odium that is inseparable from gubernatorial profanity; and, besides, the fellow might "go to Klondike," when he would never for a moment think of going to the warmer place.

A German writer who doesn't take much stock in the Kaiser's land grabbing enterprise in China, and the grand powwow they had on sending those two ships out under command of the Kaiser's brother, calls attention to the fact that a German war ship cannot reach China without stopping at four English coaling stations.

Comptroller Eckels says he knew last year the condition of those suspended banks in Philadelphia and could have closed them, "but it wouldn't have done. It was election time." The probabilities are that Mr. Eckels was a good deal more interested in the election than he was in the banks, and neglected his official business to do missionary work for the gold men.

The Philadelphia *Record* says that "by the killing of Ruiz the insurgents have destroyed their cause." Why? Did the Spaniards "destroy their cause" when they repeatedly massacred sick and wounded Cubans in hospitals?

"Love laughs at locksmiths," and sometimes at jailors, too. An Indiana girl faked the key, slipped into a jail and let her sweetheart out.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice—Schedule B tax.
J. H. Bunting—Toilet articles.
C. W. Polvogt Co.—Dry goods.
King Grocery Co.—Start Right.
W. B. Cooper—Fresh groceries.
J. J. Shepard—Carpets must go.
J. D. Nutt—You can grow bulbs.
W. E. Worth & Co.—Shining beacon.
S. W. Sanders—White House coffee.
Hall & Pearsall—Happy New Year.
Mercer & Evans—Merry Christmas.
J. W. Murchison—"Lock your barn door."

BUSINESS LOCALS.

Lost—Gold watch.
Lost—Gold bracelet.

LOCAL DOTS.

— For other new advertisements see fourth page.

— The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be held at 2.30 o'clock Monday afternoon.

— Though it rises a little late today, THE MORNING STAR hopes it makes up in brightness what it loses by unavoidable delay.

— Register of Deeds C. W. Norwood announces that Schedule B taxes are due and payable during the first ten days of January.

— Are you a subscriber to the STAR? No! Are you a reader of the STAR? Yes! Well, why not subscribe and read your own paper?

— Why does the Government charge as much postage on a "drop letter" as it does on one to be transported from Wilmington to San Francisco?

— The type and other material belonging to the printing plant of the *North Carolina Presbyterian*, were shipped yesterday to Charlotte, where the next issue will appear.

— Prof. O. C. Cogan, of Cape Town, South Africa, will walk a slack wire stretched from the foot of Market street across the river, this morning at 10 o'clock and to-niJht at 8 o'clock.

— It is hoped the STAR will make a creditable appearance in its new suit to-day. But it must not be forgotten that a new suit sometimes requires alterations before a perfect fit is secured.

— The STAR has received many Calendars for 1898, but the most elaborate and expensive is that circulated by the New Orleans Coffee Co. It is a gem of beauty, and is worthy of a place in any lady's boudoir.

— Every member of Fifth Street Methodist church who can attend is earnestly requested to be present at the services to-morrow at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. And the public generally is invited to all of the services.

— Jim Bradley, colored, tried Thursday afternoon in Justice McGowan's court on the charge of stealing lumber and in whose case a decision was reserved, was yesterday committed to jail to await the action of the Criminal Court.

— One of the best compliments ever bestowed on the STAR, was conveyed in a remark made by an old subscriber recently. He said: "The STAR has less to take back, apologise for or explain, than any newspaper I have ever read."

— A recent story from Washington is that Pritchard will be appointed to succeed Judge Dick, and that Gov. Russell will appoint Virg. Lusk to succeed Pritchard in the Senate. Not much. If Pritchard resigns the Hon. Demosthenes Lycurgus Russell will appoint himself Senator. He's an up-to-date Rep.-Pop. Confusionist, he is.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY.

The Wilmington Office is One of the Handsomest and Best Equipped in the South.

The Wilmington branch of the Standard Oil Company has been supplied with one of the handsomest and best equipped offices in the country. It was built under the supervision of Mr. W. R. Jester, architect and builder for the Standard Oil Company.

The building is two stories high and constructed of pressed brick. On the first floor is the main office, 30 by 27 feet, the private office of Manager W. R. Barksdale, and a third office for the assistant manager, Mr. H. E. Gibbons. These are all elegantly finished in hard wood and the main office is furnished with bank railings and conveniences for some eight or ten clerks. Up stairs there is an extra office, which the Standard's numerous travelling men will use in making up their reports and transacting their business when they are in the city. In the second story also is a stationery and mailing room.

The New Schedule Works Well.

The W. & N.'s new schedule allows people who come in over that road more time in the city than it did at first, and for that reason it is giving satisfaction to many. Under the former schedule, there was only an hour and twenty minutes to spend here. Now there are over two hours between arrivals and departures. There are a good many people from the country who take advantage of the favorable schedule to come to Wilmington to do their trading.

Savings and Trust Company Prospers.

The Wilmington Savings and Trust Company at a directors' meeting held yesterday, declared a dividend of 3 per cent. and passed 3 per cent. of the capital to the surplus account out of the earnings of the past six months.

CUTTING SCRAPES.

Investigated Yesterday in the Courts of Justices Bunting and Fowler.

SENT TO A HIGHER COURT.

Neither of the Victims Were Very Seriously Injured—Other Cases Disposed of by Same Magistrates.

Mr. Zoro Ennett was arraigned in Justice Bunting's Court yesterday charged with assaulting Dave Thompson, colored, with a knife late Christmas Eve night. After hearing the evidence in the case Justice Bunting adjudged Mr. Ennett not guilty and discharged him. A. J. Marshall, Esq., appeared for the defendant.

Two other cases were disposed of by the same magistrate.

Sarah Jane Johnson, colored, was let off upon payment of costs.

Kinnon Green, colored, charged with assaulting his wife, Martha, with a deadly weapon, was committed to jail in default of a $50 bond for his appearance at the next term of the Criminal Court.

STABBING OF EX-POLICEMAN M'DUFFIE.

Messrs. Morris Johnson, Oscar Henry, Robert Johnson, Vrane Swann, Jr. and Mark Johnson, were all arraigned for trial yesterday afternoon at 12.30 o'clock before Justice Fowler, charged with being implicated in the stabbing of ex-policeman J. N. McDuffie, colored, now foreman of Engine Company No. 2, which came near ending in the death of McDuffie, and from the effects of which he is still confined to his bed.

After a thorough investigation into the case the defendants Swann and Morris Johnson were discharged, and Justice Fowler announced that he would render a decision as to the other defendants this morning at 10 o'clock.

The stabbing of McDuffie occurred early Christmas afternoon at the corner of Sixth and Castle streets, while McDuffie was assisting the police in making an arrest.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Report of Dr. McMillan, Superintendent of Health, for Month of December.

The report of Dr. W. D. McMillan, Superintendent of Health, for the month of December shows that during that time there were fifty-one births—sixteen white males, eleven white females, nine colored males and fifteen colored females. There were thirty-four deaths—eight white males, eight white females, ten colored males and eight colored females; six bodies of white people and three of colored were brought into the city for interment, and three transportation permits issued—all for the transit of bodies of colored people.

The report also shows that during the past month three houses were quarantined on account of scarlet fever, four permits for the removal of earth were issued, 1,413 inspections of premises were made, of which 1,019 were found in fair condition, 394 in bad condition, 30 requiring immediate attention, 365 supplied with lime and acid, and 114 special inspections were made.

BY RIVER AND RAIL.

Receipts of Naval Stores and Cotton Yesterday.

W. & W. Railroad—552 bales cotton, 9 casks spirits turpentine, 3 bbls tar.

Carolina Central Railroad—13 bales cotton, 7 casks spirits turpentine, 174 bbls rosin, 6 bbls tar.

C. F. & Y. V. Railroad—3 bales cotton 11 casks spirits turpentine, 16 bbls rosin, 52 bbls, tar.

W. & N. Railroad—13 bales cotton.

Steamer Driver—3 bales cotton, 12 casks spirits turpentine, 161 bbls rosin, 93 bbls tar.

Steamer A. P. Hurt—10 bales cotton, 3 casks spirits turpentine, 37 bbls rosin, 57 bbls tar.

Steamer W. T. Daggett—6 bales cotton.

Total—Cotton, 600 bales; spirits turpentine, 42 casks; rosin, 383 bbls; tar, 211 bbls.

JEWELL CONCLAVE NO. 3.

Heptasophs or Seven Wise Men Elect Officers.

Jewell Conclave No. 3, Heptasophs or Seven Wise Men, on their meeting night, December 29th, elected the following officers:

W. C.—H. G. Saunders.
E. A.—S. B. Northrop.
W. P.—J. S. Sneeden.
I. G.—C. W. Suggs.
Prelate—E. W. Ellis.
W.—H. C. Barkenhagen.
S.—A. Boswell.
R. S.—A. H. Morris.
F. S.—J. M. Branch.
Treasurer—G. Hart.

The above officers will be publicly installed Tuesday night, January 4th, at Germania Castle Hall on Front street, between Market and Dock.

The Last Day.

The last day of the year was inclined to be stormy. About 1 p. m., there was every promise of a severe storm. There was a strong wind and the sky was overcast with clouds that seemed ready to pour forth torrents of rain. But there was more blow than rain. The clouds became scattered towards night and all signs pointed to the forecast for to-day—"fair and colder."

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

A Large Audience Greets the N. C. University Dramatic Club.

AN ARTISTIC PRODUCTION.

"London Assurance," Dion Boucicault's Familiar Play, Presented to a Large Audience — The Cast of Characters.

A large and fashionable audience greeted the first appearance in this city of the University Dramatic Company at the Opera House, and were entertained with an artistic production of Dion Boucicault's familiar play, "London Assurance." Each member of the cast showed ability to portray well the character assigned to him and won highly appreciative applause, especially Messrs. W. G. Cox, G. B. Pond, R. M. Rawls and G. L. Myers. The latter named gentleman, who is a resident, played the leading female role, *Grace Harkaway*, and handled this most difficult and trying role with ease and grace; and besides he looked the beautiful girl he represented.

The following was the cast of characters:

Sir Harcourt Courtley.. Mr. G. B. Pond
Charles Courtley.....Mr. R. H. Graves
Dazzle.....Mr. R. S. Busbee
Max Harkaway.....Mr. S. May
Dolly Spanker.....Mr. R. M. Rawls
Mark Meddle.....Mr. W. G. Cox
Cool.....Mr. I. W. Harris
Solomon Isaacs.....Mr. W. G. Cox
Martin.....Mr. A. Staton
James.....Mr. I. F. Harris
Lady Gay Spanker.....Mr. R. E. Pollin
Grace Harkaway.....Mr. G. L. Myers
Pert.....Mr. A. Staton

Executive staff—Director, Mr. S. May; business manager, Mr. R. E. Pollin; assistant business manager, Mr. G. D. Vick.

After the performance the college boys were tendered a german at Germania hall, which was participated in by about thirty couples and led by Mr. Thos. W. Davis.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

Entertainment at Residence of Mrs. Graflin for Children of Market Street M. E. Church.

The members of the Sunday School of Market Street M. E. church met last night at the residence of Mrs. Graflin, corner of Third and Walnut streets, to engage in the annual Christmas festivities. The parlors and halls were thronged with happy children, who gazed longingly upon the Christmas tree with its load of presents.

A unique feature of this Xmas entertainment was that it was graced on special invitation by Mrs. Santa Claus, a person who up to last night had never been seen in Wilmington. This character was well represented by Mrs. R. H. Beery, while Santa Claus himself was represented by Mr. J. L. Graflin. Much merriment was caused by the way in which Mr. Willie Sneeden represented the "Little Man from Klondike." There was also a humorous selection read by Miss Lula Sneeden, besides other interesting features.

The committee of arrangements consisted of Mrs. R. H. Beery, Mrs. E. F. Johnson and Miss Lula Sneeden. Mr. R. H. Beery, the superintendent of the Sunday School, was present.

IMPROVED ORDER RED MEN.

Officers Elected by Cherokee Tribe No. 9.

At a regular meeting of Cherokee Tribe No. 9, Improved Order of Red men, the following officers were elcted for the ensuing term, viz;

Sachem—M. Patrick.
Senior Sagamore—Herman Parker.
Junior Sagamore—Joe Lane.
Prophet—M. Marshburn.
Chief of Records—J. M. Branch.
Keeper of Wampum—J. H. Lane.
Guard ot Wigwam—W. H. Moore.
Guard of Forest—W. Willoughby.

The above officers, together with the appointive officers, will be installed at the next meeting.

The Passing of the Year.

The year of our Lord, 1897, went out with appropriate services in Wilmington. A number of devout people gathered at Grace M. E. Church to watch the old year out and the new year in. There were watch night serservices, also, at several other churches, and at midnight, the stillness was broken by the usual tolling of bells. These were re-inforced by some steam whistle blasts, the report of a few large firecrackers, and one or two other incidents to show that the moment was not an ordinary one.

Positively, No Leading Questions.

This is the birthday of our editor-in-chief; but he isn't half so proud of it as he is of the STAR in its new dress. In point of fact, he is very shy of birthday discussions; and if any one asks him how many winters have chilled the marrow in his bones, he takes refuge behind the legal point that he is not required to answer "leading questions," and smilingly asserts that he is still "one of the boys, and that he "feels like a MORNING STAR.

Bound Over to Court.

Caleb Herring, colored, was before Justice G. W. Bornemann on the charge of committing assault and battery with a lamp. He was bound over to the Criminal Court. Another culprit submitted to the charge of assault and battery.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPH.

— Mrs. H. D. Glover arrived in the City yesterday.

— Mr. Henry Blount, the well known lecturer, is in the city.

— Mr. H. D. Kellihan, of Cerro Gordo,, was in the city yesterday.

— Mr. A. F. Toon, of Whiteville, was registered at The Orton yesterday.

— Mr. H. B. Hardy, of the Raleigh *News and Observer*, is in the city.

— Miss Essie Gregory, of Cox, Ga., is in the city visiting Miss Mary Plummer.

— Mr. C. Ed. Taylor, of the Southport *Standard*, came up to the city yesterday.

— Mr. J. Edwin Bunting will leave to-day, returning to Horner's School, Oxford.

— Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hanby left last evening for Savannah, to spend New Year's with Mrs. Hanby's parents.

— Mr. T. W. McBryde, of the Orton Hotel, left yetserday for Jonesboro, his former home, to spend New Year's.

— Miss Lizzie Knight, of Tarboro, who has been visiting her uncle, Dr. E. Porter, at Rocky Point, came down to the city yesterday to spend a few hours with friends. She was accompanied by Miss Fanny Westbrook, of Rocky Point.

ARRIVALS OF VESSELS.

Record of Harbor Master Williams of the Port of Wilmington for 1897.

The records of the harbor master, Capt. E. D. Williams, show arrivals of vessels of over 90 tons at the port of Wilmington during the year 1897, as follows:

American—Fifty-six steamships, 48,937 tons; four brigs, 1,320 tons; 120 schooners, 34,887 tons; one dredge, 860 tons Total, 181 vessels, 86,004 tons.

Foreign—Thirty-eight steamships, 63,895 tons; thirty-seven barques, 19,524 tons; twelve schooners, 2,187 tons. Total, 87 vessels, 85,606 tons.

Total American and foreign 268 vessels, 171,610 tons.

During the month of December the arrivals were as follows:

American—Four steamships, 3,158 tons; thirteen schooners, seventeen ;essels, 2,690 tons, total 5,848 tons.

Foreign—Six steamships, 10,492 tons; five barques, 2,666 tons; one schooner, 298 tons; total, twelve vessels, 13,456 tons.

Total American and foreign for the month, twenty-nine vessels, 19 ,304 tons.

THE MERRY-MAKERS.

"A Hot Reception" the Card for the Entertainment to be Given Monday Night.

Monday evening at the Opera House the "Merry Makers" will open an engagement of high class reportorie by playing a "Hot Reception." The Columbia, (S. C.) *Register* says:

The "Merrymakers" gave their second entertainment at the opera house last night, and it was a first class performance in every respect. This troupe is about the best popular price organization that has been in Columbia in a long time, and those who miss the nightly entertainments are foregoing much enjoyment.

The "Merrymakers" are different from the general run of such organizations. They give two very creditable performances every evening. The regulation reportoire play is presented in a most creditable manner, and besides, patrons are treated to an A No. 1 vaudeville entertainment, composedof really good specialties by first rate people.

Last night, "The Factory Girl" was given in fine style and was interlarded with pleasing specialties, every one of which was encored.

Seats on sale at Gerken's. Admission, 10, 20, and 30 cents.

LIST OF LETTERS.

Remaining in the Postoffice at Wilmington, N. C., December 31st, 1897.

LADIES' LIST.

Mrs. Clara Britt, Miss Lizzie Brown, Mrs. Mary A. Barnes. Becky Davis (col.) Eliza Everette. Mrs. E. A. Hopper, Mrs. M. A. c. Hay, Miss M. L. Harper. Miss Nelia James. Mrs. Martha Lilly. Miss Bessie Powell. Miss Julia F. Sutton.

MEN'S LIST.

Charley Armstrong, H. A. Anderson, Joe Adams. E. B. Blen, Hugh L. Bank, Joe Brent, Warren Barrides. John Conway, M. W. Coleman. D. B. Faison, Joseph Frieson, Moses Faison. Thos. Hall, Spencer Hart, Ed. Hardy, F. A. Hallman, Isaac Hogeland. Samuel Green. Fletcher Jackson, E. D. James, Robert Jordan, Tonp James. James Kennedy, Owen King, Rufus P. King. Charles Lesseine, Henry Lewis, Geo. Lackamy. George Murphy, J. Martin, Joun T. More, Toby McCallaster (2). A. C. Palmer. C. W. Owens. F. A. Wood. F. E. Williams, John W. Woodhull, Will Wright.

RETURNED FROM DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

Carrie Jordan, May Jones, Maggie Rhone.

Persons calling for above letters will please say advertised. If not called for in fifteen days they will be sent to the dead lettter office.

GEO. L. MORTON, Postmaster.

Kum and Hev a Good Laff.

"Notis—Mister Jedediah Bobbin wants it known that the beginment exercises of his 'Singin' Skule' klass will be had at the Y. M. C. A. Auditoryum Toosday nite next, Janawary forth, ateteen ninety-ate. The klass will indulge in new-fangled tunes, speekin' and thyths and git there deplomas. Plese kum and inkuruge them.

"Git tickits at Mister Yates' Monday A. M. in the morning without extray kost."

COTTON MOVEMENT.

The Receipts At Wilmington This Season Largely in Excess of Receipts Last Year.

The cotton year which will end September 1st will beat all records at this port. The monthly statement as posted yesterday at the Produce Exchange, shows the receipts to have been for the four months of the season 270,393 bales. The receipts for the corresponding period of last year were only 208,617 bales. Last season, which was the best in the history of the port up to this year, the receipts were 234,347 bales, and these figures, as will be seen, are about 36,000 bales less than this season's receipts up to January 1. Estimating the receipts to be about the same as they were in 1897, the total receipts from September 1, 1897, to September 1, 1898, will be about 300,000 bales. And these figures go to show that Wilmington is growing in importance as a cotton port.

A CHRISTMAS TREE.

Entertainment at the City Hall for the Sunday School of Fifth Street Church.

The annual Christmas reception of the Sunday school of Fifth Street Methodist church was held last evening at the City Hall, and it was a thoroughly enjoyed entertainment, both by the scholars of the school and their parents.

The assemblage, which was very large, was welcomed by Rev. W. L. Cunninggim, pastor of the church, and he then offered a prayer.

Next Mr. E. N. Penny, superintendent, distributed candy and oranges to the scholars. The hall was artistically festooned, which, together with the large, beautiful, brilliantly lighted Christmas tree, presented a most fascinating and dazzling sight.

The refreshments served embraced many things of a choice nature.

Atlantic Coast Line.

The Atlantic Coast Line system is moving steadily to the front. It now has seaport termini at Norfolk, Wilmington, Charleston and Port Royal. There is no "fuss and feathers" about the A. C. L. Everything it undertakes is done in a plain, business-like manner. President Walters is unquestionably a railroad manager of wonderful resources.

Alarm of Fire.

A fire alarm was sounded last night at 9.30 o'clock from box 18. It was on account of a slight blaze from a defective chimney in a house on Swann street, between Fourth and Fifth, occupied by S. G. Smith, colored. There was no damage.

Church Notices.

First Presbyterian Church, Rev. F. H. Hoge, D. D., Pastor. Divine service at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Young people's prayer meeting at 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at 3.30 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday at 8.00 p. m. Seats free.

The regular Services at the Seamen's Bethel will be conducted to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. D. D. McClure, Seamen and river men are especially invited. All welcome.

Grace Methodist E. Church, South, northeast corner of Grace and Fourth streets, Rev. A. P. Tayer, Pastor. Services to-morrow at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Sunday school at 3.30 p. m. Experience meeting at 10 a. m. in the lecture room. Weekly Prayer meeting and lecture Wednesday evening at 8.00 o'clock. Strangers and visitors are cordially invited to attend these services.

Fifth Street M. E. Church, South, situated on Fifth street, between Nun and Church, Rev. W. L. Cunninggim, Pastor. Services to-morrow at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at 4.00 p. m. The public cordially invited to all services.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner Fourth and Campbell streets, Rev. Alex. D. McClure, Pastor. Sabbath services at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Junior Y. P. S. C. E. 10 a. m. Senior Y. P. S. C. E. 6.45 p. m. Sabbath School at 3.30 p. m. Prayer and Praise Wednesday at 8 p. m. All welcome. Seats free.

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Rev. P. C. Morton, Pastor. Preaching every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7.15 p. m. Sunday School at 3.30 p. m. Christian Endeavor Society every Wednesday night. Sewing School Tuesday and Saturday at 3.30 to 4.00 p. m.

South Side Baptist Church, corner Fifth and Wooster streets, Rev. F. H. Farrington, Pastor. Services Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at 3.30 p. m. Weekly Prayer meeting Wednesday night at 7.30.

Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Sixth and Queen streets. There will be the usual services on Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

MARRIED.

THORPE-MEARES—December 8, 1897, by Rev. Robert Strange, D. D., at St. James' Church, Miss MARGARET ENGLEHARD MEARES to WILLIAM BENNETT THORPE, both of this city.

1898 1898

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We wish to begin the New Year with clean books. All accounts with us are made out and are due on the first of the year. We hope all persons indebted to us will come forward and settle promptly.

We wish our many customers a Happy New Year, and beg a continuance of their patronage.

Respectfully,

A. D. BROWN.

No. 29 North Front Street.

jan 1 tf

Livery and Sales Stables

Open All Day and All Night

EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK.

First-Class Equipment

In Every Branch.

Hacks and Baggage Line to and From All Trains.

HORSES BOARDED.

Furniture Wagons with Careful Drivers.

S. P. COWAN & CO.,

Second between Princess and Chesnut Streets. Telephones, both companies, No. 15. jan 1 tf

WANTED,

IMMEDIATE SHIPMENTS OF

Coon, O'Possum, Fox, Mink, Otter and Other Fur.

Highest Cash Prices Paid for Same

No Commission or Freight charged.

SAM'L BEAR, Sr.,

de 18 tf 19 Market St., Wilmington, N. C.

Old Newspapers.

YOU CAN BUY OLD NEWSPAPERS, IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT, AT THE

Star Office.

SUITABLE FOR

WRAPPING PAPER

AND EXCELLENT FOR

Placing Under Carpet.

jan 1 tf

Vollers & Hashagen,

Brokers and Manufacturers' DISTRIBUTING AGENTS.

Provisions, Lard, Sugars, Flours, Grain, Hay.

We are sole Agents for Powell, Smith & Co.'s celebrated brands of Cigars:

RENOWN, SMOKETTES, CUBAN BLOSSOM.

We sell at Wholesale only and solicit inquiries as to prices in car lots and less.

Office and warehouses A. C. Line tracks, Nutt St., Wilmington, N. C.

de 18 tf

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Our Year's work has been hard; but the results are very gratifying. We sincerely thank our friends and the general public for their liberal patronage.

AND

Earnestly soliciting a continuation and increase of same, we wish you all the joy, happiness and pleasure the season brings; also,

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Respectfully,

MERCER & EVANS.

H. C. Evans' old stand. dec 28 tf.

Mr. Jedediah Bobbins'

"SINGIN SKULE" IS KOMING. Y. M. C. A. Auditorium, Tuesday nite, Jan. 4th, for the Jim Nashum. Admishun, 50 cents; kids, 25 cents. Kum & Hev a Good Laff.

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PUBLISHERS ANNUNCEMENT.

THE MORNING STAR, the oldest daily newspaper in North Carolina, is published daily except Monday, $5.00 per year, $2.50 for six months, $1.25 for three months, 50 cents for one month to mail subscribers. Delivered to city subscribers at the rate of 45 cents per month for any period from one month to one year.

ADVERTISING RATES (DAILY)—One square one day, $1.00; two days, $1.75; three days, $2.50; four days, $3.00; five days, $3.50; one week, $4.00; two weeks, $6.50; three weeks, $8.50; one month, $10.00; two months, $17.00; three months, $24.00; six months, $40.00; twelve months, $60.00. Ten lines of solid Nonpariel type make one square.

THE WEEKLY STAR is published every Friday morning at $1.00 per year, 60 cents for six months, 30 cents for three months.

All announcements of Fairs, Festivals, Balls, Hops, Picnics, Society Meetings, Political Meetings, &c., will be charged regular advertising rates.

Advertisements discontinued before the time contracted for has expired, charged transient rates for time actually published.

No advertisements inserted in Local Columns at any price.

All announcements and recommendations of candidates for office, whether in the shape of communications or otherwise, will be charged as advertisements.

Payments for transient advertisements must be made in advance. Known parties, or strangers with proper reference, may pay monthly or quarterly, according to contract.

Remittances must be made by Check, Draft, Postal Money Order, Express or in Registered Letter. Only such remittances will be at the risk of the publisher.

Communications, unless they contain important news or discuss briefly and properly subjects of real interest, are not wanted; and, if acceptable in every other way, they will invariably be rejected if the real name of the author is withheld.

Notices of Marriage or Death, Tributes of Respect, Resolutions of Thanks, &c., are charged for as ordinary advertisements, but only half rates when paid for strictly in advance. At this rate 50 cents will pay for a simple announcement of Marriage or Death.

Advertisements inserted once a week in Daily will be charged $1.00 per square for each insertion. Every other day, three-fourths of daily rate. Twice a week, two-thirds of daily rate.

Contract advertisers will not be allowed to exceed their space or advertise anything foreign to their regular business without extra charge at transient rates.

Advertisements kept under the head of "New Advertisements" will be charged fifty per cent. extra.

Advertisements to follow reading matter, or to occupy any special place, will be charged extra according to the position desired.

The Morning Star.

BY WILLIAM H. BERNARD.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 1, 1898.

TALK ABOUT CHEAP MONEY.

The New York *Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin* seems to be really alarmed at the possibility of the "crazy" people in this country getting possession of the Government and raising the old Harry with the gold standard business. In a recent issue there is an editorial under the heading of "The Cheap Money Agitation" from which we make the following extracts:

"One of the sound money members of the House of Representatives said the other day: 'The only men in Congress who have any courage are the cheap money men. They know what they want, and they are determined to get it, regardless of party considerations. We sound money men are so divided that we cannot make an effective contest for anything, and we are afraid to do anything lest it shall hurt our respective parties.'"

"We hope that there was a good deal of unnecessary pessimism in this lament, but there is some truth in both counts of this indictment against the sound money men, and some of them are restrained from doing what they believe the commercial interests of the country demand by the fear that 'just at this time' it would be bad for their party, and they probably are honest in believing that the defeat of their party would be worse than anything else for the country.

"But the cheap money men are as enthusiastic as fanatics usually are, and silverism and fiatism are forms of fanaticism, resting not on argument, but on feeling, and very largely on blind fear of a creation of a deceased or childish imagination, the Money Power. They are pushing their propaganda constantly; they are organizing ignorance and prejudice by means of secret societies, and they are arousing the natural jealousies of localities and the discontent which is felt not alone, or chiefly among the really poor, but mostly among those who are comfortably off, but observe with anger that Mr. Armour and Mr. Leiter and Mr. Havemayer and Mr. Rockefeller are far better off, and they are marshalling their hosts for the next election and the next one and the next one after that. What are the sound money men doing? In Congress they are trying to avoid a fight, while the cheap money men are only too anxious to precipitate it; outside of Congress the Sound Money League and the Sound Currency Committee of the Reform Club are distributing very good literature, but they have very little money to do it with. The business men of this country, who have everything at stake and who know it, are not contributing money enough to those and other agencies to enable them to do any such work of personal canvass and propagandism as the cheap money men are making."

It is not complimentary to the citizenship of this great country, nor creditable to the liberality or good sense of a journal which professes to represent and speak for the "business" interests, to practically class as crazy all people who entertain different opinions from it on the money question, or who believe in what it calls "cheap money." There were, according to the election returns last year, 6,500,000 of these crazy people, nearly one-half the voters of the country, and if we may judge from the editorial from which we quote the number is increasing rather than diminishing, and the prospects for these crazy people capturing the country fair unless the gold men bestir themselves, awake to the danger, untie their purse strings, shell out more liberally and put more missionaries in the field; and it proceeds to touch them up thus:

"The sound money men of this country are not contributing money enough to keep sound money speakers in the field. One explanation offered is that there is no election pending. But it is when there is no election pending, and party feeling is least aroused, that there is the greatest chance of affecting a man's opinions. They are not contributing money enough to meet the expense of printing a sufficient quantity of sound money literature and of sending it to individual voters, addressed in their names. The Sound Currency Committee of the Reform Club is unable to supply stereotype plates of sound money literature to nearly all the newspapers that have applied for it, because its means are not sufficient.

"With tireless energy and with the ervor that usually characterizes the hair-brained the cheap money men are convincing, which is an easy task, the ill-informed and the unreflecting that to halve the measure of wealth would be the same thing as to double its quality, that only Congress can provide a sufficient volume of currency, that money that cannot be exported is the best money in the world, that gold derives its value from the the fact of coinage, instead of being coined because it is valuable, and there are already indications, one of which was in the recent open letter of Senator Chandler, that if the cheap money men conclude that it is expedient they will drop the silver dollar and go in for irredeemable paper, in producing which the printing presses can be run day and night and a Fools' Paradise be summarily established.

Our New York contemporary—for which we have a good deal of respect, although we have no respect for its gold worshipping proclivities—must have taken inspiration from its fears and parted with its sense when it indulged in this rigamarole which puts such a very low estimate upon the intelligence of the advocates of free silver or "cheap money" as it calls it, in whose ranks are some of the most brainy men in this country and some of the best both in public and private life.

About the only sensible part of the editorial is its conclusion in which it makes a pertinent suggestion, but one to which the people for whose benefit it is made will pay little attention. It says:

"The South insists on the right of State banks to issue notes upon the terms granted to National banks, and with that most of the Southern support of free silver and fiat money would fall off. It is a question for sound money men to consider whether it would not be better to make friends with the State banks than to leave the Western and Southern agitators, which are not unknown in the East, for a cheaper unit and for more currency to work in collusion."

This is a nut with a kernel in it, but we haven't the slightest idea that the gentlemen who are running the business at Washington will care to pick the kernel out after the nut is cracked. But it is a wise and pertinent suggestion all the same, and as the STAR contended four years ago would give the solution of the financial problem and set the silver agitation to rest. If Congress had the foresight and sense to clear the way for State banks in 1893 when the Sherman law was repealed, or rather that portion providing for the purchase of silver bullion, there never would have been a silver agitation strong enough to organize a free silver party, for with the money the State banks would have supplied to meet the demands of the sections where money was scarce, the great motive to the agitation would have been removed and there would be no necessity or occasion for such agitation. People do not agitate questions like this for recreation or organize parties and carry on campaigns for fun. They do it only when they feel that there is a necessity for something of that kind and that they and the country are to be benefitted by it. If money were plentiful, and so distributed that the sections in which it was scarce could provide themselves with it, this condition would not exist and the free silver missionary or organizer would find little co-operation or encouragement even in the sections where the free silver "craze," as the gold men call it, is now the strongest.

But the blundering statesmen who repealed the Sherman law, the existence of which kept the agitation down, didn't have the sense to see it, thought the people would quietly submit to that scheme of the gold men to knock silver out, and have since paid the penalty of their folly. A little foresight and a little honest disposition to do right at that time and treat the people fairly, would have averted all this agitation, brought prosperity to the country, the Democratic party would have remained solid and united and would be in power to-day. But we have nothing to expect for State banks, or for a better financial system from the party now in power.

MINOR MENTION.

The Chicago *Times-Herald* is owned and edited by Mr. Kohlsaat, who was one of the "original McKinley men" and gave Mark Hanna powerful assistance in securing his nomination. It has, therefore, been looked upon as the Western organ of the administration and its utterances on matters of State are accordingly regarded with more importance than the utterances of the ordinary party paper. For this reason, if for no other, it is somewhat significant that the *Tims-Herald* should at this stage of the proceedings endorse and advocate the gold standard position taken by Secretary Gage and declare that "every man who voted for McKinley and Hobart with any degree of intelligence did so because he wanted precisely what the Gage bill would secure." If this be the Chicago organ's measure of intelligence there was a powerful lack of intelligence in the vote cast for McKinley and Hobart, if we may judge from the amount of Republican kicking done by prominent Republicans against the Gage bill. Commenting upon this declaration of Mr. Kohlsaat's paper, the Washington *Post*, a gold standard paper, which doesn't look at the financial question through yellow glasses only, submits the following pertinent remarks:

"Does the Chicago *Times-Herald* believe that McKinley and Hobart could have been elected on a platform demanding the retirement of the greenbacks? Does it believe there would have been a possibility of defeating Bryan and free coinage if the St. Louis platform had declared for the substitution of an interest-bearing debt in lieu of the most popular currency the country has ever had? Without discussing at this time the merits of the Gage bill, we ask our Chicago contemporary if it honestly believes that the Republicans would have triumphed in 1896 if they had put the gist of that measure into their platform and made the fight thereon? Is it not morally certain that such a course would have been fatal to the cause for which McKinley and Hobart stood?

"Has the *Times-Herald* forgotten the tremendous growth of the free silver sentiment during the three or four months preceding the St. Louis Convention? Has it forgotten how it continued to grow during that memorable campaign, how it threatened to sweep the Northwest and the immense vote polled for its champion?

"We do not say that the Gage bill would not secure one result desired by all who voted for McKinley and Hobart, but does not the *Times-Herald* know that, in doing so, it would secure other results—such as the destruction of the greenbacks and the increase of bonded obligations not desired by some millions of Republicans? The Republicans and their allies in 1896 voted against free coinage, and for the maintenance of the gold sandard, with a pledge to secure, if possible, an international arrangement for the coinage of silver. They did not vote to destroy the greenbacks or to issue millions of bonds. They may vote to do those things in some future election, but until they thus vote these things cannot be done. The *Times-Herald* ought to know that this Congress will not pass any measure for currency reform—that it is absolutely impossible to put the Gage bill or anything of similar import through this Congress. Knowing this, would it not be wiser for the *Times-Herald* to desist from frantic agitation?"

***

Most of the cotton bought in this country for the East is grown in Texas. The amount shipped to Japan in 1897 was twice as much as in '96, and the indications are for an increase. This cotton is transported by rail to San Francisco, when it is shipped to Japan. This is expensive carriage, but it seems the Japanese manufacturers can stand it, but if they had cheaper transportation, they could afford to pay more for the cotton they buy and the planters would gain by that. In referring to this trade, the Houston *Post* thus urges the importance of the Nicaragua canal:

This increasing cotton trade with the far east and the long haul by rail now required to the Pacific before obtaining water rates, emphasizes in a new light, the importance to the South of the Nicaragua canal. With a direct, all-water route from Houston to Japan, the orientals could still obtain raw cotton from Texas at what they now pay for it, and yet allow the planter a cent or two cents more on the pound.

There has been talk enough over this canal (if talk would build canals) to build a half dozen, but we are no nearer to it now than we were five years ago. The whole country is interested in it, but especially the South. If the North were as much interested as the South is the probabilities are that the necessary action would have been taken long ago, and vessels been sailing through it by this time. A dispatch published yesterday informs us that a number of leading contractors of this country are now going over the ground, and estimate that the work can be done for from $25,000,000 to $33,000,000, which is so much lower than the estimates heretofore made that it seems incredible. But even if it cost four times as much, this work is of such vast importance to this country both from a commercial and naval standpoint that it ought to be begun at once and pushed to completion without delay.

TWINKLINGS.

— Wanted to Know: Pastor—"Come out to church to-morrow. I feel sure you will enjoy the sermon." Friend—"Who is going to preach."—*Harlem Life.*

— A father recently wrote to Oxford University: "What are your terms? And does it cast anything extra if my son wants to read and write as well as to row a boat?"—*Tit-Bits.*

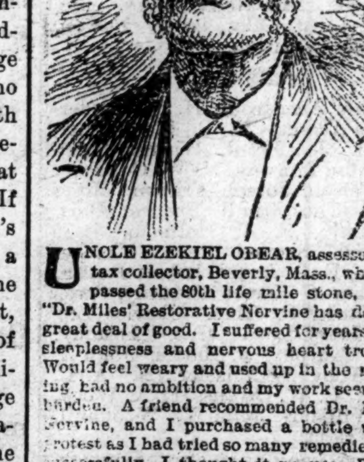
— Rector's Wife—"You ought to avoid even the appearance of evil. Do you yourself think the girls who dance are right?"

Belle of the Parish—"They must be. I know the girls who don't dance are left."—*Harlem Life.*

— Cause and Effect: Biggs—"Why, what makes your little boy cry so?" Diggs—"It is the result of his absence of mind." Biggs—"Absence of mind! How is that?" Diggs—"Well you see he didn't mind what his mother told him, so I had to punish him."—*Chicago News.*

At Four Score.

Dr. Miles' Nervine Restores Health.



UNCLE EZEKIEL OBEAR, assessor and tax collector, Beverly, Mass., who has passed the 80th life mile stone, says: "Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine has done a great deal of good. I suffered for years from sleeplessness and nervous heart trouble. Would feel weary and used up in the morning, had no ambition and my work seemed a burden. A friend recommended Dr. Miles' Nervine, and I purchased a bottle under protest as I had tried so many remedies unsuccessfully, I thought it no use. But it gave me restful sleep, a good appetite and restored me to energetic health. It is a grand good medicine, and I will gladly write anyone inquiring, full particulars of my satisfactory experience."

Dr. Miles' Remedies are sold by all druggists under a positive guarantee, first bottle benefits or money refunded. Book on diseases of the heart and nerves free. Address,

Dr. Miles' Nervine Restores Health

DR. MILES MEDICAL CO., Elkhart, Ind.

All druggists guarantee Dr. Miles' PAIN PILLS to stop Headache. "One cent a dose."

No morphine or opium in Dr. Miles's PAIN PILL CURE ALL PAIN. "One cent a dose."

Forsal e by all Drugists. Change.

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CASTORIA.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

— Fayetteville *Observer*: Mr. Bethea, Sr., is 88 years old and often walks from his home in Moore county to Fayetteville, a distance of 35 miles, making the trip in two days.

— Monre *Enquirer*: While unloading a boiler near Wardlaw, last Monday, Mr. Will Warwick was killed by the boiler rolling on him. He lived but half an hour after the accident. The unfortunate man was badly mangled, his back being broken in two places.

— Asheville *Citizen*: News comes that at Culberson, in Cherokee county, on Christmas day, Poley Collins, while drunk, shot and killed a negro of the name of Wiley Colvard. Collins was held by the coroner and was brought to jail here Monday. Other persons, thought to be implicated in the killing, were discharged.

— Rockingham *Rocket*: We regret to learn that Messrs. Cox & Cooper, two of our most energetic and clever young men, found it necessary to assign their large stock of goods for the benefit of their creditors. We are not informed as to the extent of their liabilities or the amount of their assets. The assignment was made last Saturday.

— Wadesboro *Messenger-Intelligencer:* Mrs. Jane Watkins, relict of the late Dr. Christopher Watkins, died at her home in Ansonville last Sunday night, aged 86 years. —— Mr. Hamp Horne, of White Store township, this county, attempted suicide in Monroe Tuesday, by taking Chloroform. For sometime hir life was despaired off, but we learn this morning that he is out of danger. Mr. Horne has a wife and Several children.

— Tarboro *Southerner*: Christmas was a happy day for Willis Lee, who has been in jail under sentence of death for murder since the Spring term of the Criminal Court. On that day, his attorneys, Messrs. Gilliam & Gilliam, received a telegram from Raleigh announcing that the Supreme Court had granted him a new trial. The case will come up for trial at the February term of the Criminal Court.

CURRENT COMMENT.

—— That Mississippi negro who is coming to Washington to have the government avenge the assassination of his relatives can doubtless be appeased with something equally as good.—*Washington Post, Dem.*

—— Well, the Emperor of China has taken away from Li Hung Chang about all the clothing that the old man can spare and fulfill the laws of decency. If China is dismembered, it is probable that Li will be called upon to commit hari-kari.—*Norfolk Landmark, Dem.*

—— Japan's motive is raising the cry of "Asia for the Asiatics" is plain. With the Great Powers of Europe holding the mainland, she will never be able to gratify, her ambitious designs of conquest. That the cry will enkindle a blaze which would consume the invading foreigners, however, is not at all likely. The success of such a movement depends upon patriotism and a pronounced national feeling. In these qualities the Asiatics are notably deficient.—*Baltimore Herald, Dem.*

The conflict in China is a conflict for trade. Nations which have no trade in China are banded together to conquer and divide it, and those which have the trade already are uniting to defend it. Of $258,000,000, of foreign trade in China, Great Britain has $172,000,000, Japan $25,000,000, and the United States $15,000,000. All the other shares are smaller, and their total is an insignificant fraction of the whole. This shows where our sympathies ought to be in the contest, though is is certain that we shall not meddle in it.—*New York Commercial and Advertiser, Rep.*

Coughs, colds, pneumonia and fevers may be prevented by keeping the blood pure and the system toned up with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

THE BREECHLOADER.

Improvements in Guns That Conduce to Rapidity of Firing.

Let us examine a breechloader and see what improvements have been made which may conduce to rapidity of fire. We see that in the older pattern three motions were necessary to open the breech. First the bar which is fixed across the base of the block had to be removed, then a half turn had to be given to the block to free it in its bed, and then it had to be pulled forward. Lastly, it had to be thrown back on its hinge, so as to open the gun from end to end. We are shown that in later patterns the cavity or bed into which the block fits is made in the form of a cone, so that the breech block itself can be turned outward without any preliminary motion forward. In artillery work time is everything, and any one motion of the gunner's hands and arms saved is a point gained.

Now let us look at the mechanism by which the recoil or backward movement of the gun is checked at the moment of firing. The gun slides into its cradle, and its recoil is counteracted by buffers which work in coil, something in the fashion of the coil springs which we see on doors. Iron spiral springs push the gun back again into place. Another interesting piece of mechanism is the electric machinery by which the gun is fired. When the recoil has taken place, the wire, along which runs the electric current, is pushed out of place, so that it is impossible to fire the gun, even though it be loaded, until it has been again fixed in its proper position on the cradle. Truly a modern cannon is a wonderful machine, and yet it is only a development from the sort of iron gas pipe which was used in the middle ages.

Hard by is a gun which has come to grief. In experiments which are carried on at Shoeburyness guns are charged to their full, or, as in this case, more than their full strength. There is an ugly gash running down the outer case or jacket, as it is called, of the gun, and the latter has broken and nearly jumped out of its cradle. Nursery phraseology certainly comes in strongly in the technical slang of gunnery when we have to do with Woolwich infants.—Chambers' Journal.

A Clever Trick.

It certainly looks like it, but there is really no trick about it. Anbody can try it who has Lame Back and Weak Kidneys, Malaria or nervous troubles. We mean he can cure himself right away by taking Electric Bitters. This medicine tones up the whole system, acts as a stimulant to the Liver and Kidneys, is a blood purifier and nerve tonic. It cures Constipation, Headache, Fainting Spells, Sleeplessness and Melancholy. It is purely vegetable, a mild laxative, and restores the system to its natural vigor. Try Electria Bitters and be convinced that they are a miracle worker. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c a bottle at R. R. BELLAMY's drug store. †

CASTORIA.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

NEW YEAR THOUGHTS

THE OLDEST AND MOST WELCOME OF ALL HOLIDAYS.

The Philosophy of Good Resolutions. Present Giving — New Year's Calls — A Better Wish Than "A Happy New Year." A Touch of Sympathy.

[Copyright, 1897, by the Author.]

New Year's day is the oldest holiday that we know anything about. It has been celebrated by the Jews, the Egyptians, the Chinese and the ancient Romans in different ways, of course, but it has always been more or less a festal occasion. The day, commemorating what was supposed to be the first day of the year, has varied as to date, Christmas day, the Annunciation (March 25), Easter day and March 1 having been observed at different times. It was not until after the middle of the fourteenth century that Jan. 1 was universally accepted as the opening of the year. The celebration of New Year's has been observed by all religions from time immemorial, long antedating history. As a holiday it is thought to be at least 8,000 to 10,000 years old. What first gave rise to it is beyond knowledge, but it is conjectured that it had its origin in superstition connected with the sense of newness, which has appealed to the mind in all ages as emblematic of hope, expectancy and desirableness.

The custom, so common in this country, of making good resolutions on New Year's day, only to break them later, is by no means peculiar to Americans. It is characteristic of the average weakness of mankind. All of us prefer to do what we want to rather than what we ought, and we compromise with our consciences by declaring that we will reform at the beginning of the year, though we usually have no reason to believe that we shall, as if the mere declaration were a kind of virtue. Many men resolve to do better, to be better, regularly at the recurrence of every Jan. 1, nor do they appear to be in the least discouraged that they have returned after a few weeks to their old ways, to their objectionable habits. They still keep up the assumption of reforming, imagining that a promise to themselves is more likely to be kept if made on New Year's, notwithstanding their continuous disproval of the likelihood. This is sheer superstition, as are the ill luck of Friday and the propitiousness of Sunday. Jan. 1 is doubtless associated with a deal of superstition, even in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, which is far worse in its effect than any amount of pleasure seeking.

Fifty years ago it was the general custom in the United States, particularly in the west and south, to give presents (the old name for them is handsels) at New Year's to kindred, friends and even ordinary acquaintances. The custom had come down from ancient times and is still preserved in many parts of the old world, but in the new it has grown obsolete, because present making here is carried to excess and has become a serious tax. Its discontinuance is to be commended. All present making should be voluntary, not in any manner binding, as it is apt to be if regulated by fixed dates. Christmas is an exception, but to give presents again the week following is excessive, wearisome, often inconvenient. It wholly spoils the spirit of what should be a pleasant surprise, a delicate attention, an unexpected courtesy.

In no quarter of the globe is so much made of New Year's as in China. There its observation occupies several days, sometimes a whole week. It is the most popular and noisy of festivals, surpassing that of the Dragon Boats, the Feast of Lanterns, the Fishermen or any other public parade and national rejoicing. The people are very fond of shows and processions, and on that special occasion they carry thousands of lanterns, burn fireworks, explode crackers, play all sorts of pranks and games in the narrow streets, beat gongs, shout and sing in their high, shrill voices until they make of every sizable town a perfect pandemonium. They are ordinarily so reserved and quiet, like orientals generally, that New Year's impresses foreigners as if the entire population had suddenly and irredeemably gone mad.

New Year's calls by men on their woman friends continue to be made in most of our cities, though they almost entirely and suddenly ceased in the metropolis some 12 years ago. They will not probably be revived in this generation at least. They originated there, so far as this country is concerned, at the time of the Dutch settlement of the town, and yet New York was the first city to relinquish them. Old Knickerbockers were not, as many suppose, the first to introduce the social custom, importing it from Holland. It has been in existence for hundreds and hundreds of years and in lands that we consider uncivilized.

The smart set of New York, who first frowned down New Year's visits, refusing to receive on that day, now emphasize their opposition by closing their town houses and going to their country seats for a week or two. This has become the fashion.

Although most of us feel when we are wished "a happy New Year" that it sounds a bit satirical we know that it is polite, even if it means nothing. And then as we wish those who wish it to us exactly the same thing we are conscious of having discharged a courtesy. Even if we knew we were to be miserable we should relish kind wishes, so fond are we of deceiving ourselves. Self deceit is what the mass of us live on.

Wouldn't it be better for us instead of wishing our friends "a happy New Year" to wish them "a happier New Year than the old one has been?" That we might easily have, and as happiness in any strict sense does not come to the human family it would seem sincere, less like an empty phrase and would convey a touch of sympathy.

PAUL R. CLEVELAND.

A Victim of Rudeness.

"Women are so inconsequent," complained Chollie.

"What has happened now?" asked the man to whom Chollie is a specimen to be thoughtfully studied.

"I was saying to Miss Kean that I wished I knew of some way in which I could be of use to the world, and she broke right in on my wemawks to tell me that they were making pocketbooks out of monkey skins nowadays. It was pawsitively wude."—Indianapolis Journal.

The Greatest Discovery Yet.

W. M. Repine, editor Tiskilwa (Ill.) *Chief*, says: "We won't keep house without Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. Experimented with many others, but never got the true remedy until we used Dr. King's New Discovery. No other remedy can take its place in our home, as in it we have a certain and sure cure for Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, etc." It is idle to experiment with other remedies, even if they are urged on you as just as good as Dr. King's New Discovery. They are not as good, because this remedy has a record of cures, and besides is guaranteed. It never fails to satisfy. Trial bottles free at R. R. BELLAMY's drug store. †

CASTORIA.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

100 Doses in a Bottle

Is peculiar to and true only of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and is proof of its superior strength and economy. There is more curative power in a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla than in any other. This fact, with its unequalled record of cures, proves the best medicine for all blood diseases is

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1.

Hood's Pills cure Liver ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

Sep 4 6m 3a

How to Treat your New Year Callers

when they come to wish you many happy returns of the day should be with the most lavish hospitality. There is nothing that will taste better to a man on a cold day than a cup of hot bouillon, a slice of chicken, turkey, or a cold bird, while a chicken salad is indispensable. You will find everything in meats, poultry, game and oysters choice enough for the most fastidious epicure at this market.

I. B. RHODES.

de 22 tf Front Street Market.

FRANK H. STEDMAN,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

Fire AND Tornado Insurance

YOUR BUSINESS IS SOLICITED AND

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

OFFICE AT

Wilmington Savings & Trust Company.

Telephone No. 162. de 3 tf

Start the New Year Right

SQUARE UP WITH YOUR GROCER AND THROW THE PASS-BOOK AWAY.

Pay Cash For What You Get,

And pay it where you can obtain the best results. It is only reasonable to suppose that that place is where they do no crediting.

TRY IT FOR YOUR OWN SATISFACTION.

The King Grocery Co.,

B. F. KING, MANAGER,

'Phone 387. Fourth Street Bridge.

jan 1 tf

Wholesale Prices Current.

The quotations are always given as accurately as possible, but the STAR will not be responsible for any variations from the actual market price of the articles quoted.

☞ The following quotations represent Wholesale Prices generally. In making up small orders higher prices have to be charged.

BAGGING—			
2 ℔ Jute		@	6¾
Standard		@	7¾
WESTERN SMOKED—			
Hams ℔ ℔	12	@	14
Sides ℔ ℔	6	@	7¼
Shoulders ℔ ℔	6	@	7½
DRY SALTED—			
Sides ℔ ℔	5	@	5¼
Shoulders ℔ ℔		@	5¼
BARRELS—Spirits Turpentine—			
Second-hand, each	1 00	@	1 10
New New York, each		@	1 20
New City, each		@	1 20
BEESWAX ℔ ℔		@	22
BRICKS—			
Wilmington ℔ M	5 00	@	7 00
Northern	9 00	@	14 00
BUTTER—			
North Carolina ℔ ℔	15	@	18
Northern	18	@	28
CORN MEAL—			
Per bushel, in sacks	44	@	45
Virginia Meal	44	@	45
COTTON TIES—℔ bundle		@	85
CANDLES—℔ ℔—			
Sperm	18	@	25
Adamantine	8	@	10
CHEESE—℔ ℔—			
Northern Factory	10	@	11
Dairy, Cream		@	11
State	10½	@	12
COFFEE—℔ ℔—			
Laguyra	20	@	20
Rio	8	@	10
DOMESTICS—			
Sheeting, 4-4, ℔ yard		@	5¼
Yarns, ℔ bunch	18	@	20
EGGS—℔ dozen	15	@	16
FISH—			
Mackerel, No. 1, ℔ barrel	22 00	@	30 00
Mackerel, No. 1, ℔ half-bbl.	11 00	@	15 00
Mackerel, No. 2, ℔ barrel	16 00	@	18 00
Mackerel, No. 2 ℔ half-bbl.	8 00	@	9 00
Mackerel, No. 3, ℔ barrel	13 00	@	14 00
Mullets, ℔ barrel	3 00	@	3 50
Mullets, ℔ pork barrel		@	6 50
N. C. Roe Herring, ℔ keg	3 00	@	3 25
Dry Cod, ℔ ℔	5	@	10
Extra	4 35	@	3 50
FLOUR—℔ ℔—			
Low grade		@	3 75
Choice		@	4 75
Straight		@	5 00
First Patent	5 25	@	6 00
GLUE—℔ ℔	7½	@	8½
GRAIN—℔ bushel—			
Corn, from store, bgs—White		@	45
Car load, in bags—White		@	44
Oats, from store	31½	@	35
Oats, Rust Proof		@	40
Cow Peas		@	55
HIDES—℔ ℔—			
Green		@	6
Dry		@	8
HAY, ℔ 100 ℔s—			
Clover Hay	80	@	85
Rice Straw		@	50
Eastern		@	90
Western		@	85
North River		@	75
HOOP IRON, ℔ ℔	1⅞	@	2
LARD, ℔ ℔—			
Northern	5½	@	6
North Carolina	6	@	10
LIME, ℔ barrel	1 15	@	1 25
LUMBER (city sawed) ℔ M ft—			
Ship Stuff, resawed	18 00	@	20 00
Rough-edge Plank	15 00	@	16 00
West India cargoes, according to quality	13 00	@	18 00
Dressed Flooring, seasoned	18 00	@	22 00
Scantling and Board, com'n	14 00	@	15 00
MOLASSES, ℔ gallon—			
Barbadoes, in hogshead		@	26
Barbadoes in barrels		@	28
Porto Rico, in hogsheads		@	27
Porto Rico, in barrels		@	28
Sugar-House, in hogsheads	12	@	14
Sugar-House, in barrels	14	@	15
Syrup, in barrels	12	@	15
NAILS, ℔ keg, Cut. 60d basis		@	1 50
PORK, ℔ barrel—			
City Mess	9 25	@	9 50
Rump		@	8 25
Prime		@	9 25
ROPE, ℔ ℔	10	@	22
SALT, ℔ sack Alum		@	1 10
Liverpool		@	60
Lisbon		@	
American	40	@	60
On 125 ℔ Sacks		@	45
SHINGLES, 7-inch, ℔ M	5 00	@	6 50
Common	1 60	@	2 25
Cypress Saps	2 50	@	3 50
SUGAR, ℔ ℔—Standard Gran'd		@	5¾
Standard A		@	5⅝
White Extra C		@	5⅜
Extra C, Golden		@	4⅞
C. Yellow		@	3⅞
SOAP, ℔ ℔—Northern	3¼	@	4
STAVES, ℔ M—W. O. barrel	6 00	@	14 00
R. O. Hogshead		@	10 00
TIMBER, ℔ M feet—Shipping		@	9 00
Mill, Prime		@	7 00
Mill, Fair	6 50	@	6 50
Common Mill	4 00	@	5 50
Inferior to Ordinary		@	3 00
SHINGLES, N. C. Cypress sawed			
℔ M 6x24 heart	7 50	@	8 50
Sap	5 00	@	6 00
5x24 Heart	4 50	@	5 00
Sap	4 00	@	4 50
6x24 Heart	6 00	@	6 50
Sap	5 00	@	5 50
TALLOW, ℔ ℔		@	6
WHISKEY, ℔ gallon—Northern	1 00	@	2 00
North Carolina	1 00	@	2 00
WOOL ℔ ℔—Unwashed	8	@	15

COMMERCIAL.

WILMINGTON MARKET.

STAR OFFICE, December 31.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.—Market quiet at 30¾ cents per gallon for machine-made casks and 30¼ cents for country casks.

ROSIN.—Market firm at $1.15 per bbl for Strained and $1.20 for Good Strained.

TAR.—Market firm at $1.05 per bbl of 280 lbs.

CRUDE TURPENTINE.—Market quiet; $1.40 per barrel for Hard, $1.90 for Dip and 1.90 for Virgin.

Quotations same day last year.—Spirits turpentine firm, 24¼, 24c; rosin firm, $1.45, $1.50; tar quiet, $1.00; crude turpentine dull, $1.40, $1.90, $1.80.

RECEIPTS.

Spirits Turpentine	42
Rosin	383
Tar	211
Crude Turpentine	00

Receipts same day last year.—124 casks spirits turpentine, 360 bbls rosin, 106 bbls tar, 43 bbls crude turpentine.

COTTON.

Market firm on a basis of 5 7-16c. per pound for middling. Quotations:

Ordinary	3	cts.	℔ lb.
Good Ordinary	4 5-16	"	"
Low Middling	5-	"	"
Middling	5 7-16	"	"
Good Middling	5 11-16	"	"

Same day last year, middling 6¾c.

Receipts—600 bales; same day last year, 1,383.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

PEANUTS—North Carolina—Prime, 35@40c per bushel of 28 pounds; Extra Prime, 45c; Fancy, 50. Virginia—Extra Prime, 45c; Fancy, 50c.

CORN—Firm; 47½@50 cents per bushel.

ROUGH RICE—$1.00@1.05 per bushel.

N. C. BACON—steady; hams 8 to 9c per pound; shoulders, 6 to 7c; sides, 7 to 8c.

SHINGLES—Per thousand, five inch, hearts and saps, $1.60 to $2.25; six inch, $2.25 to 3.25; seven inch, $5.50 to 6.50.

TIMBER—Market steady at $8 to 8.50 per M.

Cotton and Naval Stores.

WEEKLY STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.
For month of December, 1897.

Cotton.	Spirits.	Rosin.	Tar.	Crude.
59,878	2,844	11,440	10,127	1,089

RECEIPTS.
For month of December, 1896.

Cotton.	Spirits.	Rosin.	Tar.	Crude.
32,043	2,319	20,400	8,582	714

EXPORTS.
For month of December, 1897.

	Cotton.	Spirits.	Rosin.	Tar.	Crude.
Domestic	1,915	2,172	403	5,624	1,224
Foreign	52,290	1,765	31,000	500	000
	54,205	3,937	31,403	6,124	1,224

EXPORTS.
For month of December, 1896.

	Cotton.	Spirits.	Rosin.	Tar.	Crude.
Domestic	3,007	2,175	455	3,282	1,016
Foreign	38,586	337	10,231	11	000
	41,593	2,512	10,686	3,293	1,016

STOCKS.
Ashore and Afloat January 1, 1898.

	Ashore.	Afloat.	Total.
Cotton	15,643	20,625	36,268
Spirits	2,848	000	2,848
Rosin	31,450	1,490	32,940
Tar	5,684	600	6,284
Crude	206	000	206

STOCKS.
Ashore and Afloat January 1, 1897.

Cotton.	Spirits.	Rosin.	Tar.	Crude.
16,739	1,566	53,181	6,668	360

FINANCIAL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Money on call firm at 3½@4 per cent., last loan at 4 per cent. and closed at 3½@4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3½@4½ per cent. Sterling exchange dull and easier, with actual business in bankers' bills at 4.84¾@4.84½ for demand and at 4.82 for sixty days. Posted rates 4.82½@4.83 and 4.85½@4.86. Commercial bills at 4.81@4.81½. Silver certificates 57½@58½. Bar silver 57½. Mexican dollars 46½. Government bonds irregular; U. S. new 4's, registered, 128; U. S. new 4's, coupon, 128; U. S. 4's 112½; U. S. 4's, coupon, 114½; U. S. 2's 99½; U. S. 5's, registered, 114; U. S. 5's, coupon, 114. State bonds dull; North Carolina 6's 125; North Carolina 4's 103.

NAVAL STORES MARKETS.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Rosin steady; strained, common to good, $1 40@1 45. Spirits turpentine easy at 33½@33¾c.

SAVANNAH, GA., December 31.—Spirits turpentine firm at 30½c; sales 525 bales; receipts 311 bales. Rosin firm; sales 6,864 bales; quotations unchanged.

COTTON MARKETS.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Flour neglected and nominally unchanged. Wheat—Spot firm; No. 2 red 1.01½; options opened firmer on cables, advanced sharply on fair clearances and active covering, was irregular in the afternoon with some realizing and closed firm on a renewed demand from shorts at ⅜c@½c net advance; No. 2 red January 28¾@¾, closed 98⅝c; May closed 94½; December 1.00@1.00¾. Corn—Steady; No. 2 35⅝c f. o. b. afloat; options opened firm with wheat, advanced on clearances and covering under realizing, but closed steady at a partial ⅛c net advance; January closed at 33⅝c. Oats—Spot quiet; No. 2 28⅜c; options dull all day, closing unchanged; February closed 28⅝c; May closed 28⅝c. Rice quiet. Lard firmer; western steam closed at $5. Pork firm. Butter steady; Western creamery 15@22c; do factory, 12@15c; Elgins, 22; imitation creamery, 13½@18c; State dairy, 15@20c; do creamery, 15@21c. Cheese firm; large white September, 8½@8⅝c. Petroleum dull. Rice quiet. Molasses steady. Cotton oil, prime crude, 18@19c; do f o b mills, 14½@15½c; off summer yellow, 21@21½c. Spot coffee dull, but steady; No. 7 invoice, 6⅝c; mild quiet; Cordova, 8½@15c. Sugar strong; fair refining 3⅝c; centrifugal, 95 test, 6⅛c; refined strong.

NEW YORK, December 31.—The cotton market was narrow as to fluctuations and small as to volume to-day, the entire scope of the variations being only a matter of four points. Opening steady at decline of 2 to 4 points, there was a further loss of 1 to 2 points, with the market finally steady at a net decline of 3 to 5 points. Trading was almost entirely local; there was, however, some investment buying on the weaker intervals. Selling was checked by a disappoing movement at the ports and interior towns.

NEW YORK, December 31.—The following are the total net receipts of cotton at all ports since September 1, 1897: Galveston, 1,379,693 bales; New Orleans, 1,524,652; Mobile, 227,103; Savannah, 860,306; Charleston, 360,035; Wilmington, 269,013; Norfolk, 422,547; Baltimore, 31,424; New York, 64,352; Boston, 104,489; Newport News, 5,444; Philadelphia, 39,617; Brunswick, 119,126; Port Royal, 45,038; Pensacola, 53,849. Total, 5,506,688 bales.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Cotton quiet; middling 5 15-16c.

Cotton futures opened steady at the decline, with sales of 4,000 bales, and closed steady, with sales of 75,700 bales; January 5.78c., February 5.80c., March 5.84c., April 5.89c., May 5.94c., June 5.98c., July 6.02c., August 6.06c., September 6.05c., October 6.06c.

Spot cotton closed quiet; middling uplands 5 15-16c.; middling gulf 6 3-16c; sales 23 bales.

Net receipts 1,304 bales; gross 7,705 bales; exports to Great Britain —— bales; to France —— bales; to the Continent 3,226 bales; forwarded 755 bales; sales — bales; sales to spinners 23 bales; stock 123,682 bales.

Weekly—Net receipts 6,566 bales; gross receipts 40,701 bales; exports to Great Britain 33,747 bales; to France 1,984 bales; to the Continent 6,314 bales; forwarded 13,700 bales; sales 540 bales; sales to spinners 140 bales.

Total to-day—Net receipts 66,735 bales; exports to Great Britain 33,747 bales; to France —— bales, to the Continent 15,153 bales; stock 1,218,550 bales.

Consolidoted—Net receipts 306,567 bales; exports to Great Britain 103,567 bales; to France 9,984 bales; to the Continent 70,978 bales.

Total since September 1st—Net receipts 5,506,688 bales; exports to Great Britain 170,412 bales; to France 494,559 bales; to the Continent 1,446,680 bales.

December 31.—Galveston, firm at 5½c., net receipts 12,067 bales; Norfolk, steady at 5½c., net receipts 2,856 bales; Baltimore, nominal at 5 15-16c., net receipts 2,747 bales; Wilmington, firm at 5½c., net receipts 600 bales; Philadelphia, quiet at 6 3-16c., net receipts 1,216 bales; Savannah, steady at 5 3-16c., net receipts 5,072 bales; New Orleans, easy at 5⅜c., net receipts 29,761 bales; Mobile, quiet at 5¼c., net receipts 689 bales; Memphis, steady at 5 5-16c., net receipts 3,079 bales; Augusta, steady at 5 9-16c., net receipts 423 bales; Charleston, steady at 5 3-16c., net receipts 584 bals.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

CHICAGO, December 31.—The December wheat deal, like the proverbial March weather, "came in like a lion," and to-day "went out like a lamb." There was no excitement attendant upon the closing session, December winding up at 95c or ¾c above yesterday's close. Speculative business in May was light, but firm, that month closing at ⅛@½c advance. Corn and oats were lifeless and closed at substantially unchanged prices. Provisions were very strong and closed 10@25 points higher.

CHICAGO, December 31.—Cash quotations: Flour firm. Wheat—No. 2 spring 88c; No. 3 spring 75@89c; No. 2 red 93@95c. Corn—No. 2, 27@27⅛c. Oats—No. 2, 22¾@23c.; No. 2 white, f. o. b., 23½@24½c; No. 3 white, f. o. b., 23½@24½c. Rye—No. 2, 46½c. Mess pork, per barrel, $7 97½@8 00. Lard, per 100 lbs., $4 72½. Short rib sides (loose) $4 45@4 70. Dry salted shoulders (boxed) $4 50@4 75. Short clear sides (boxed) $4 75@4 85. Whiskey, distillers' finished goods, per gallon, $1 19.

The leading futures ranged as follows, opening, highest, lowest and closing: Wheat—No.2, December 94⅞, 95½, 94½, 95c.; January 92⅝c, 93⅜, 92⅝, 93c; May 92⅜@92¾, 92½, 92½@92¼, 92⅝c. Corn—December 27, 27⅛, 26⅞@26⅞, 26⅞@26⅞c; January 27⅛c; May 29¾@29⅞, 29⅞@30, 29⅜@29¾, 29⅜@29⅝c; July 30⅞@31, 30¾, 30⅞c. Oats—December 22¾, 23, 22¾, 22⅝@22⅞c; May 23¾, 23⅞, 23⅜, 23⅜@23⅝c. Mess pork, per barrel, January $8 85, 9 00, 8 82½, 8 97½; May $9 05, 9 27½, 9 05, 9 22½. Lard, per 100 lbs.—January $4 65, 4 75, 4 65, 4 72½; May $4 80, 4 90, 4 80, 4 87½. Short ribs, per 100 lbs—January $4 42½, 4 52½, 4 42½, 4 52½; May $4 60, 4 70, 4 60, 4 67½.

BALTIMORE, December. 31.—Flour dull and unchanged, Wheat firmer; spot, month and January 97⅞@98c; May 94⅝c bid; steamer No. 2 red 92¾@93c; Southern wheat by sample 93@99c; do on grade 93½@98½c. Corn steady; spot and month 33⅜@33⅝c; December, new or old, 33⅜@33⅝c; January 33⅜@33⅝c; steamer mixed 31⅝@32c; Southern white and yellow corn 29@29⅝c. Oats firm; No. 2 white Western 29½@30c.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 31.—4 P. M.—Cotton—Spot in fair demand, but business only moderate. American middling 3⅛d. Sales of the day were 10,000 bales, of which 500 were for speculation and export and included 9,400 American. Receipts 3,000 bales, including 2,900 American. Futures opened steady, with a moderate demand and closed quiet. American middling (l m c): January 3 12-64d seller; January and February 3 11-64d seller; February and March 3 11-64@12-64d seller; March and April 3 12-64@13-64d seller; April and May 3 13-64d seller; May and June 3 14-64d buyer; June and July 3 15-64d buyer; July and August 3 16-64d buyer; August and September 3 17-64d value; September and October 3 18-64d seller; October and November 3 18-64@19-64d buyer.

MARINE.

ARRIVED.

Swed bque Solid, 506 tons, Wedin, Swansea, Jas T Riley & Co.

Stmr A P Hurt, Robeson, Fayetteville, Jas Madden.

CLEARED.

Stmr A P Hurt, Robeson, Fayetteville, Jas Madden.

Steamship Croatan, 826 tons, McKee, New York, H G Smallbones.

Exports.

COASTWISE.

NEW YORK.—Steamship Croatan—100 pkgs mdge, 30 cases cotton flannels, 16 bbls rosin, 388 do tar, 284 do spirits turpentine, 44 bags chaff, 500 bales cotton.

MARINE DIRECTORY.

List of Vessels in the Port of Wilmington, N. C., Jan. 1, 1898.

SCHOONERS.

Bartholdi, 299 tons, Grafton, master.
Ella G. Eells, 230 tons, Cushman, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Ira B. Ellems, 263 tons, Marston, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Fred B. Belano, 256 tons, Sawyer, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Robert F. Bratton, 62 tons, Harriss, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Nimrod, 257 tons, Green, Jas. T. Riley & Co.
Clara, 281 tons, Hatch, Geo Harriss, Son & Co.
D J. Sawyer, 326 tons, Kelley, Geo Harris, Sons & Co.
Cora M, 137 tons, Mitchell, Geo Harriss, Son & Co.
Mable Darling (Br), 112 tons, Roberts, Geo Harriss, Son & Co.
Roger Moore, 277 tons, Miller, Jas T Riley & Co.
Solid (Swed), 507 tons, Wedin, Jas T Riley & Co.

BARQUES.

Falcon (Nor), 390 tons, Ohre, Paterson, Downing & Co.

STEAMSHIPS.

Morven (Br.) 2,360 tons, Ellis, Alex. Sprunt & Son.
Hawkhurst (Br), 1,528 tons, Watson, Alex. Sprunt & Son.
Yearby (Br) 1,955 tons, Goldworthy, Alex. Sprunt & Son.
Lucerne (Br), 1,227 tons, Wallace, Glasgow, J. H. Sloan.

Assignee's Sale.

ON WEDNESDAY, THE 5TH OF JANUARY, 1897, 12 o'clock M., I will sell for cash at public auction, the entire stock of Goods and Merchandise, consisting of

Gentlemen's Clothing and Furnishing Goods

assigned to me by S. H. Fishblate, then remaining unsold. Sale will take place in the store where the Goods are situate. Until said date all Goods will be disposed of at retail at 10 per cent. less than cost. A. G. RICAUD, Assignee.

de 28 tf tu th sa

AN OPEN LETTER
To MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA," AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADE MARK.

I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, *of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of* "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," *the same that has borne and does now* Chas. H. Fletcher *on every bear the fac-simile signature of* Chas. H. Fletcher *wrapper. This is the original* "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," *which has been used in the homes of the Mothers of America for over thirty years.* LOOK CAREFULLY *at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought* Chas. H. Fletcher *on the and has the signature of* Chas. H. Fletcher *wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.*

March 8, 1897. Samuel Pitcher M. D.

Do Not Be Deceived.

Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which *even he* does not know.

"The Kind You Have Always Bought"

BEARS THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF

Chas. H. Fletcher.

Insist on Having
The Kind That Never Failed You.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

If It's Worth Printing the Twice-a-Week Courier-Journal Will Print It.

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THE TWICE-A-WEEK COURIER-JOURNAL is a Democratic paper, of six or eight pages, issued Wednesday and Saturday of each week. The Wednesday issue prints all the Civil News, and the Saturday issue prints Stories, Miscellany, Poetry, all matters of special interest in the home. It is edited by Henry Watterson.

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MAXTON BUILDING
AND
LOAN ASSOCIATION,
Maxton, N. C.

DIRECTORS:

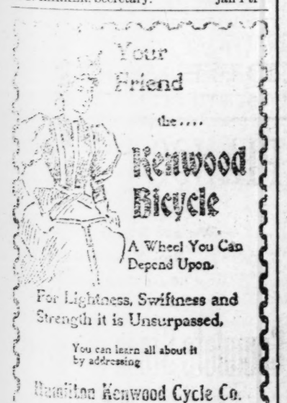
J. D. CROOM, Maxton.
ED. McRAE, Maxton.
J. B. SELLERS, Maxton.
G. B. PATTERSON, Maxton.
R. W. RIVERMORE, Pates.
WM. H. BERNARD, Wilmington.
E. F. McRAE, Raemont.

The attention of Investors in Wilmington is called to the fact that the average profits of the Six Series of Stock now in force in this Association have been about

Eleven Per Cent.

Initiation Fee, 25 cents per Share.
Subscriptions to Stock payable in weekly instalments of 25 cents per Share.
The management is prudent and economical, as is shown by the fact that the Association has sustained no losses, and its annual expenses, including taxes, are only about Two Hundred Dollars.

J. D. CROOM, President.
W. B. HARKER, Secretary. jan 1 tf



For Lightness, Swiftness and Strength it is Unsurpassed.

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203-205-207 S. Canal St., Chicago.

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POZZONI'S
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Purest, purest and most besutifying powder ever made. It is soothing, healthful and harmless: used rightly used IS INVISIBLE. You have never tried

POZZONI'S

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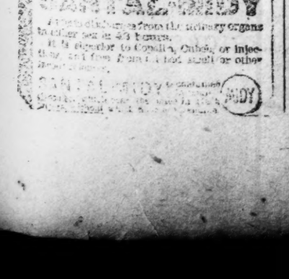
IT IS SOLD EVERYWHERE.



A BLACK LION'S SKIN.

A NEW YEAR'S ADVENTURE IN ALGIERS BY FRED A. OBER.

[Copyright, 1897, by the Author.]

The best shooting in Algiers may be had about New Year's, and if one start out early in January, armed with a permis de chasse—a legal permit to hunt—a good guide and an Arab stallion he can bag partridge, snipe and woodcock galore and in certain districts chance a crack at a panther, perhaps a lion.

There is more or less of good hunting throughout the "Tell," between the coast range and the sea, but the cream of it is to be found in the province of Constantine, not far from the great desert and among the foothills of the Aures mountains. In this province resides a mixed race of people, with the blood of ancient Byzantines, Romans and Vandals in their veins and boasting the most stalwart men and the handsomest women in all Africa, perhaps in the world.

While even the Bedouins, those fierce sons of the desert, have been subdued by the French and are now governed by cadis appointed by the conquerors, these north African Vandals have maintained

SHE WOUND HER BARE ROUND ARMS ABOUT MY NECK.

their freedom and their ancient village rights. Among them even now falconry, that rare sport of the middle ages, is pursued with vigor, though only the high caste chiefs are allowed to indulge in it.

Coming down from Constantine, that famous city of the early Christian bishops of Africa, four of us, all Americans, dropped off at Guelma, once the stamping ground of Gerard the Lion Killer. Hardly 40 years have elapsed since this intrepid Frenchman, Cecile Jules Basile Gerard, an officer of the Algerian army of occupation, slew, single handed, scores of lions in this very district.

The king of beasts even now occasionally ranges the hills and ravages the herds and flocks of this section. He is seen just often enough to give a spice of adventure to the pursuit of smaller game and to send a nervous chill up and down one's spine when he hears an unusual rumpus in the woods. And this brings me around to my story.

We had put in a good day's shooting and were gathered at the little inn, half cafe and half fondouk, comparing notes and awaiting impatiently the coming of our dinner. The proprietor of this "hotel de l'oasis" had once lived in New Orleans and was more than delighted to entertain his erstwhile countrymen who had come to shoot far from the land he loved so well and where he had spent the days of his rollicking youth, and so he served us with the best he had.

It was with the consciousness that we had in prospective a dinner which could not be duplicated between Guelma and Paris and with a most bountiful supply of crude material in reserve that we sent for the commander of the irregular spahis stationed at this point. And that he appreciated fully the courtesy and the dinner we discovered long before the cloth was removed and the cigars and coffee brought in. How could he serve us most acceptably, he asked. Why, we answered, by telling us a story, of course, some tale of adventure, of skirmish with Bedouins, moonlight meetings with African lions or something of that sort. We had often heard that the life of a spahis commander was full of adventure and trusted his had been no exception.

"No, messieurs," he replied thoughtfully, even sadly, "I have not been spared adventure. 'Tis true I have interrupted many a razzia, have chanced upon some few lions. Indeed I have met the lion of Guelma."

After this brief statement, made in a low tone, as if communing with himself, the captain of the spahis leaned his head upon one hand and remained for a space lost in reverie. We then noticed, showing through the close cropped hair of his head, a long, semilunar scar, which seemed to glow with the intensity of his emotions, and at sight of it we all clutched at the idea that in some manner this reminder of a terrible wound was connected with our friend's experience with the lions.

None of us, however, dared ask the question that might elicit a solution of the mystery, but we had hopes, for, though this veteran of many wars was by nature discreet and reticent, yet our wines were the very best to be had in Algiers, and we did not spare any efforts to have him drink them. Under ordinary circumstances you couldn't have drawn a story out of him with a corkscrew, but this New Year's dinner was not an ordinary occasion, and the champagne that followed the last portion of woodcock on toast was the finest the Widow Clicquot ever sent out from her caves.

"Long live the widow!" we all ejaculated with fervor, which awoke our captain from his reverie, and he joined in, "Oui, vive la veuve!" We primed his glass anew, and he began his tale of adventure:

"It was about 15 years ago. I was then newly appointed to this post, and, being a young man, full of fire and nerve, my blood was boiling over with a desire to fight and also, perhaps, with a desire of another sort, and so of course, being young and ardent and there being no other damsels here than the fair Vandalese, it fell out that one of them captured my heart, or at least my inclination.

"She was (you have seen the type and know it to be beautiful in a wild, barbaric way) a handsome, spirited woman, and the fame of her beauty was wide throughout the region from here to Tunis. Why she favored me was not clear to me then because my countrymen were not liked at that time, and besides she had been sought in marriage by some of the richest sheiks and cadis of her people. Still, she appeared to love me in a savage, uncontrollable fashion, and the greater portion of my pay was spent in purchasing for her those gewgaws and golden ornaments the women of her tribe are so inordinately fond of.

I was surely in her toils, her most willing, even abject, slave, for she had fascinated me and I thought I loved her. Perhaps I did love her. Truly my passion was strong, and for the sake of keeping her love an exclusive possession I had fought three duels with sword and spear before I had reigned three months as her lord. My last opponent, a fine young Arab, I mortally wounded, though I had not so intended, but his onset was fierce, and he was so rash and headstrong I had to meet him on the point of my lance. He fell from his horse, and as I bent over to raise him he gasped out: "Think not I am the last. The real favorite of Fatima is Abdul Said. He has sworn to kill you. Beware of him." Then the blood poured from his mouth and he died.

I did not mind fighting with Abdul Said, whom I knew by sight, but he was a slippery rascal, who always avoided an open encounter, and I soon became aware that he was awaiting a good opportunity for sticking me in the back. Thus matters stood at the opening of the winter of 1882. The height of the hunting season was near, and on Christmas week I prepared to have a foray in the fields. My mistress observed my preparations without comment, but when finally, just as I was ready to be off, I asked her what I should bring back from the hunt worthy of her acceptance she brightened up and showed a genuine interest in the affair.

"There is one thing I desire of all things on earth," she said, speaking slowly and steadily, "but it is something you dare not attempt."

"Dare not?" I asked, with a show of indignation. "Have I ever shown fear of danger since you knew me? But why 'dare' not? What is there to fear?"

She shrugged her shoulders, smiled an inscrutable smile, and turning away her head so that I could not look into her eyes she said, "I know—you have proved to me—that you fear not man, but what I desire is guarded by one whom all men fear."

"Name it!" I cried. "You shall have it, though fiends and devils guarded it, my beloved!"

She wound her bare, round arms about my neck and whispered in my ear, "Bring me, then, the skin of the black lion of Guelma."

Behind that ridge, my friends—you can see it without leaving your seats—is a broad plateau known as the Lions'

LANDED DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF ME.

Pleasure grounds. There roamed the kings of the plain and the forest, and conspicuous of them all was the great black lion of Guelma. I had often heard of him. His fame was widespread, for he had killed more than a score of Arabs within the twelvemonth past.

There was something in her manner that piqued me, but before I unwound her arms from about my neck I pressed a fervent kiss upon her lips and then said: "Very well. You shall have what you desire. Two days hence at this hour I shall bring it to you."

She remained silent, but looked at me incredulously, and this vexed me so that I strode away without another word. Within the hour I was on my way across the plain with two trusty

Relief in Six Hours.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "New Great South American Kidney Cure." This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain inthe bladder, kidney, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female, It relieves retension of water and pain. In passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure, this is your remedy. Sold by—R. R. Bellamy, Druggist, Wilmington, N. C., corner of Front and Market streets. †

For Over Fifty Years

MRS. WINSLW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It sothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and tak no other. †

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.
LIMITED TRAINS.
DOUBLE DAILY SERVICE
TO ALL POINTS
North, South and Southwest.

Schedule in Effect May 30, 1897.

Train 41—Leaves Wilmington 3:20 P. M., arrives Lumberton 5:26 P. M., Pembroke 5:48 P. M., Maxton 6:12 P. M., Laurinburg 6:23 P. M., Hamlet 6:58 P. M. Connects at Hamlet with train 41 for Charlotte and Atlanta, and with train 402 for Portsmouth, Richmond, washington and points North.

Train 41—Leaves Portsmouth 9:30 A. M., arrives Weldon 11:41 A. M., Raleigh 3:30 P. M., Sanford 5:03 P. M., Hamlet 6:53 P. M., Rockingham 7:09 P. M., Wadesboro 8:11 P. M., Monroe 9:13 P. M., Charlotte 10:25 P. M., Athens 8:45 A. M., and Atlanta 6:20 A. M. Connection at Weldon with train from Richmond and all Northern points. Pullman sleeper, Portsmouth to Nashville, Tenn.

Train 403—Leaves Washington 4:10 P. M., Richmond 8:56 P. M., Portsmouth 8:45 P. M. Arrives Weldon 11:10 P. M., Raleigh 2:07 A. M., Sanford 3:36 A. M., Hamlet 5:10 A. M., Rockingham 5:23 A. M., Wadesboro 5:54 A. M., Monroe 6:45 A. M., Charlotte 7:50 A. M., Lincolnton 10:30 A. M., Shelby 11:18 A. M., Rutherfordton 12:30 noon, Athens 4:15 P. M., Atlanta 8:20 P. M. Connections at Atlanta for all points South and West. Pullman Sleeper, Washington to Atlanta, and Portsmouth to Chester.

Train 38—Leaves Hamlet 8:39 A. M. Arrives Laurinburg 8:46 A. M., Maxton 9:05 A. M., Pembroke 9:34 A. M., Lumberton 9:53 A. M., Wilmington 12:05 noon. Connects at Hamlet with trains from Washington, Portsmouth, Charlotte and Atlanta.

Train 402—Leaves Atlanta 1:00 P. M., Arrives Athens 8:16 P. M., Monroe 9:30 P. M. Leaves Rutherfordton 4:35 P. M., arrives Shelby 5:55 P. M., Lincolnton 6:50 P. M., Charlotte 8:18 P. M., Monroe 9:10 P. M., Wadesboro 10:31 P. M., Rockingham 11:08 P. M., Hamlet 11:20 P. M., Sanford 1:09 A. M., Raleigh 2:16 A. M., Weldon 4:55 A. M., Portsmouth 7:25 A. M., Richmond 8:18 A. M., Washington 12:31 noon. Pullman Sleepers, Atlanta to Washington and Chester to Portsmouth.

Train 18—Leaves Hamlet 7:15 P. M., arrives Gibson 8:10 P. M. Returning, leaves Gibson 7:00 A. M., arrives Hamlet 7:50 A. M.

Train 17—Leaves Hamlet 8:40 A. M., arrives Cheraw 10:00 A. M. Returning, leaves Cheraw 8:00 P. M., arrives Hamlet 6:20 P. M.

All trains daily except Nos. 17 and 18.

Trains make immediate connections at Atlanta for Montgomery, Mobile, New Orleans, Texas, California, Mexico, Chattanooga, Nashville, Memphis, Macon, Florida.

For Tickets, Sleepers, etc., apply to
THOS. D. MEARES,
Gen'l Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

E. ST. JOHN,
Vice President and General Manager.
H. W. B. GLOVER, Traffic Manager.
V. E. McBEE, Gen'l Superintendent.
T. J. ANDERSON, Gen'l Pass. Agent.
General Offices, Portsmouth, Va. sep 22 tf

Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley R'y.

JOHN GILL, RECEIVER.

Condensed Schedule.

In Effect November 28th, 1897.

NORTH BOUND.	No. 2 DAILY.
Leave Wilmington	9 00 A. M.
Arrive Fayetteville	12 10 P. M.
Leave Fayetteville	12 22 "
Leave Fayetteville Junction	12 27 "
Leave Sanford	1 48 "
Leave Climax	3 47 "
Arrive Greensboro	4 30 "
Leave Greensboro	4 30 "
Leave Stokesdale	5 17 "
Leave Walnut Cove	5 17 "
Leave Rural Hall	6 15 "
Arrive Mt. Airy	7 45 "

SOUTH BOUND.	No. 1 DAILY.
Leave Mt. Airy	8 40 A. M.
Leave Rural Hall	10 04 "
Leave Walnut Cove	10 53 "
Leave Stokesdale	11 06 "
Arrive Greensboro	11 55 "
Leave Greensboro	12 15 P. M.
Leave Climax	12 48 "
Leave Sanford	2 36 "
Leave Fayetteville Junction	3 56 "
Arrive Fayetteville	4 00 "
Leave Fayetteville	4 10 "
Arrive Wilmington	7 30 "

NORTH BOUND.	No. 4 DAILY.
Leave Bennettsville	8 00 A. M.
Arrive Maxton	9 02 "
Leave Maxton	9 07 "
Leave Red Springs	9 35 "
Leave Hope Mills	10 20 "
Arrive Fayetteville	10 40 "

SOUTH BOUND.	No. 3 DAILY.
Leave Fayetteville	4 50 P. M.
Leave Hope Mills	5 07 "
Leave Red Springs	5 43 "
Arrive Maxton	6 11 "
Leave Maxton	6 15 "
Arrive Bennettsville	7 15 "

NORTH BOUND.	No. 6 Mixed Daily Ex. Sunday.
Leave Ramseur	6 40 A. M.
Leave Climax	8 25 "
Arrive Greensboro	9 17 "
Leave Greensboro	9 25 "
Leave Stokesdale	11 07 "
Arrive Madison	11 15 "

SOUTH BOUND.	No. 15 Mixed Daily Ex. Sunday.
Leave Madison	12 35 P. M.
Leave Stokesdale	1 25 "
Arrive Greensboro	2 45 "
Leave Greensboro	3 15 "
Leave Climax	4 25 "
Arrive Ramseur	6 10 "

CONNECTIONS

At Fayetteville with the Atlantic Coast Line, at Maxton with the Carolina Central Railroad, at Red Springs with the Red Springs and Bowmore Railroad, at Sanford with the Seaboard Air Line, at Gulf with the Durham and Charlotte Railroad at Greensboro with the Southern Railway Company, at Walnut Cove with the Norfolk and Western Railway.

J. W. FRY, Gen'l Manager.
W. E. KYLE, Gen'l Pass. Agent.
no 25 tf

Schedule on Wilmington Seacoast R. R.

ON AND AFTER SEPT. 27TH, TRAINS WILL run as follows:

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.
Leave Wilmington at 2.30 P. M., 6.30 P. M.
Leave Ocean View at 8.00 A. M. and 5.00 P. M.

SUNDAY TRAINS.
Leave Wilmington at 2.30 P. M. and 6.00 P. M.
Leave Ocean View at 5.00 P. M.

R. OSCAR GRANT,
jan 1 tf Superintendent.

The Clyde Steamship Co.

NEW YORK, WILMINGTON, N. C., AND Georgetown, S. C., Lines.

New York for Wilmington.
CROATAN.....Friday, December 24
ONEIDA.....Saturday, January 1

Wilmington for New York.
ONEIDA.....Friday, December 24
CROATAN.....Friday, December 31

Wilmington for Georgetown, S. C.
ONEIDA.....Tuesday, December 21
CROATAN.....Monday, December 27

Steamship Oneida does not carry passengers.

Through Bills Lading and Lowest Through Rates guaranteed to and from points in North and South Carolina.

For Freight or Passage apply to
H. G. SMALLBONES, Supt.
Wilmington, N. C.
THEO. G. EGER, T. M., Bowling Green, N. Y.
WM. P. CLYDE & CO., General Agents, Bowling Green, N. Y. jan 1 tf

A Reminder.

Fred—What under the sun do you suppose my tailor means by sending me a copy of Pollock's "Course of Time?"

Jack—Mean, old boy? Why, it must be a reminder for you to settle then. He can't expect us fellows to pay before.

She Knew What to Do.

Timkins—Supposing you were on an isle, Miss Timbers, all alone, what would you do?

Miss Timbers—Well, if it were a church aisle and the bridegroom waited at the other end, I should endeavor to press steadily forward.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Conclusive.

"Yes," she confessed, with some hesitation, "I have an income sufficient to support one."

"Well," he argued, timidly taking her hand; "won't we be one when we are married?"—Kansas City Star.

JOB PRINTING.

BOOK BINDING AND RULING.

THE STAR JOB PRINTING OFFICE, BOOK BINDERY AND RULING ROOMS ARE COMPLETE IN THEIR APPOINTMENTS.

EVERY VARIETY OF PRINTING, RULING AND BINDING DONE NEATLY, EXPEDITIOUSLY & CHEAPLY.

WM. H. BERNARD,
Proprietor.
WILMINGTON, N. C.

A SHINING BEACON

The Hearth Lit Up By Our Famous Coal Casts

Its effulgence beyond the confines of the room, and the weary wayfarer finds hope and cheer in the far reaching ray. Comfort yourself, your family, and the belated pedestrian by using our high grade Coals.

WM. E. WORTH & CO.

Bell Telephones 64 and 94. Inter-State 146.
jan 1

When You Wish to Talk Stoves and Ranges Just Bear In Mind Buck Goods Are the Finest and Best Made In America.

This may sound extravagant, but we can make good every word of it. We also have a large line of other STOVES from the cheapest up.

Wm. E. Springer & Co., Gen'l Agts.

J. A. SPRINGER & CO.

Ours Is Not Especially Thanksgiving Coal Nor Christmas Coal.

Better still, it is every day Coal, seven days to the week;

particularly adapted to good cold weather, such as we are likely to have from this time on.

For HIGH GRADE HARD COAL, both Red Ash and White Ash, in Egg Stove, Furnace and Range sizes, well screened and promptly delivered; also, for Tennessee Lump Coal. Your orders respectfully solicited. Our Coal will not only cook turkey in great shape, but is equally as good for cooking hog and hominy.

jan 1 tf **J. A. SPRINGER & CO.**

Statement of Atlantic National Bank, Wilmington, N. C.

At the close of Business Dec. 15th, 1897, Condensed from Report to Comptroller.

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Loans	$587,334 09	Capital	$125,000 00
Overdrafts	68 33	Surplus	$55,000 00
U. S. 4 per cent. Bonds (at par)	55,000 00	Undivided profits	20,404 01— 75,404 01
Banking House and Fixtures	1,000 00	Circulation	49,500 00
Due from other Banks	$219,398 57	Total Deposits	690,691 58
Cash on hand	68,294 00—287,692 57		
Total	$940,595 59	Total	$940,595 59

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT:

	Dec. 15, '95.	Dec. 15, '96.	Dec. 15, 97.
Surplus and Net Profits	$52,000	$62,400	$75,400
Bills Payable and Re-discounts	NONE.	NONE.	NONE.

Dividends paid—6 per cent. per annum.

Last Instalment of Capital paid in October, 1892. jan 1 tf

JOHN S. ARMSTRONG, President. F. R. HAWES, Cashier.

The National Bank of Wilmington,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, - - - $111,500.00.

This Bank has unsurpassed facilities for transacting a General Banking Business, and offers to Depositors every accommodation consistent with sound banking.

Send your Business to "THE NATIONAL," as you will find it to your interest to do so, and you will find us prompt, accurate and accommodating.

—CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.—

DIRECTORS:

JOHN S. ARMSTRONG, WILLIAM CALDER, GABRIEL HOLMES,
JAS. H. CHADBOURN, Jr., C. W. YATES, GEO. R. FRENCH,
WILLIAM GILCHRIST, CHAS. E. BORDEN, HUGH MACRAE,
WM. E. WORTH, J. G. L. GIESCHEN.
jan 1 tf

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

Schedule in Effect November 29, 1897.

DEPARTURE FROM WILMINGTON—NORTH BOUND.

DAILY 9.35 A. M. No. 48—Passenger—Due Magnolia 11.03 A. M., Warsaw 11.15 A. M., Goldsboro 12.05 A. M., Wilson 12.33 P. M., Rocky Mount 1.40 P. M., Tarboro 2.45 P. M., Weldon 4.33 P. M., Petersburg 6.23 P. M., Richmond 7.15 P. M., Norfolk 6.05 P. M., Washington 11.30 P. M. Baltimore 1.06 A. M., Philadelphia 3.50 A. M., New York 6.33 A. M., †Boston 8.00 P. M.

DAILY 7.15 P. M. No. 40—Passenger—Due Magnolia 8.55 P. M., Warsaw 9.10 P. M., Goldsboro 10.10 P. M., Wilson 11.06 P. M., †Tarboro 6.45 A. M., Rocky Mount 11.57 P. M., Weldon 1.42 A. M., †Norfolk 10.30 A. M., Petersburg 3.14 A. M., Richmond 4.00 A. M., Washington 7.41 A. M., Baltimore 9.08 A. M., Philadelphia 11.25 A. M., New York 2.08 P. M., Boston 9.00 P. M.

DAILY except Sunday 2.40 P. M. No. 50—Passenger—Due Jacksonville 4.21 P. M., Newbern 5.40 P. M.

SOUTH BOUND.

DAILY 4.00 P. M. No. 55—Passenger—Due Lake Waccamaw 5.09 P. M., Chadbourn 5.41 P. M., Marion 6.43 P. M., Florence 7.25 P. M., Sumter 9.10 P. M., Columbia 10.30 P. M., Denmark 6.12 A. M., Augusta 8.30 A. M., Macon 11.30 A. M., Atlanta 12.55 P. M., Charleston 10.55 P. M., Savannah 1.50 A. M., Jacksonville 7.50 A. M., St. Augustine 10.30 A. M., Tampa 5.35 P. M.

ARRIVALS AT WILMINGTON—FROM THE NORTH.

DAILY 5.50 P. M. No. 49—Passenger—Leave †Boston 1.03 P. M., *New York 9.00 P. M., Philadelphia 12.05 *A. M., Baltimore 2.50 A. M., Washington 4.30 A. M., Richmond 9.05 A. M., Petersburg 10.00 A. M., Norfolk 8.40 A. M., Weldon 11.32 A. M., Tarboro 12.12 P. M., Rocky Mount 12.47 P. M., Wilson 2.37 P. M., Goldsboro 3.20 P. M., Warsaw 4.11 P. M., Magnolia 4.24 P. M.

DAILY 9.30 A. M. No. 41—Passenger—Leave Boston 12 night, New York 9.30 A. M., Philadelphia 12.09 P. M., Baltimore 2.23 P. M., Washington 3.46 P. M., Richmond 7.30 P. M., Petersburg 8.12 P. M., †Norfolk 2.20 P. M., Weldon 9.43 P. M., †Tarboro 6.01 P. M., Rocky Mount 5.45 A. M. Leave Wilson 6.22 A. M., Goldsboro 7.01 A. M., Warsaw 7.53 A. M., Magnolia 8.05 A. M.

DAILY except Sunday 11.59 A. M. No. 51—Passenger—Leave Newbern 9.00 A. M., Jacksonville 10.18 A. M.

FROM THE SOUTH.

DAILY 1.25 P. M. No. 54—Passenger—Leave Tampa 8.10 A. M., Sanford 3.27 P. M., Jacksonville 7.40 P. M., Savannah 1.45 A. M., Charleston 6.35 A. M., Columbia 7.00 A. M., Atlanta 8.20 A. M., Macon 9.30 A. M., Augusta 3.05 P. M., Denmark 4.25 P. M., Sumter 8.25 A. M., Florence 10.05 A. M., Marion 10.44 A. M., Chadbourn 11.45 A. M., Lake Waccamaw 12.16 P. M.

†Daily except Sunday.

Trains on the Scotland Neck Branch Road leave Weldon 3.55 P. M., Halifax 4.30 P. M.; arrive Scotland Neck 5.20 P. M., Greenville 6.57 P. M., Kinston 7.55 P. M. Returning, leaves Kinston 7.50 A. M., Greenville 8.52 A. M.; arriving Halifax at 11.18 A. M., Weldon 11.38 A. M. Daily except Sunday.

Trains on Washington Branch leave Washington 8.20 A. M. and 2.30 P. M.; arrive Parmele 9.10 A. M. and 4.00 P. M.; returning leaves Parmele 9.35 A. M. and 5.30 P. M.; arrives Washington 11.00 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Daily except Sunday.

Train leaves Tarboro, N. C., daily except Sunday, 5.30 P. M.; Sunday, 4.15 P. M.; arrives Plymouth 7.40 P. M. and 6.10 P. M. Returning, leaves Plymouth daily except Sunday, 7.50 A. M. and Sunday 9.00 A. M.; arrive Tarboro 10.05 A. M. and 11.00 A. M.

Train on Midland N. C. Branch leaves Goldsboro, N. C., daily except Sunday, 7.10 A. M.; arrive Smithfield, N. C., 8.30 A. M. Returning, leaves Smithfield 9.00 A. M.; arrive Goldsboro 10.25 A. M.

Train on Nashville Branch leaves Rocky Mount at 4.30 P. M.; arrives Nashville 5.05 P. M., Spring Hope 5.30 P. M. Returning, leaves Spring Hope 8.00 A. M., Nashville 8.25 A. M.; arrive Rocky Mount 9.05 A. M., daily except Sunday.

Train on Clinton Branch leave Warsaw for Clinton, Daily except Sunday, at 11.20 A. M. and 4.15 P. M. Returning leave Clinton at 7.00 A. M. and 3.00 P. M.

Florence Railroad leave Fee Dee 10.17 A. M.; Arrive Latta 10.35 A. M., Dillon 10.47 A. M., Rowland 11.02 A. M. Returning, leaves Rowland 6.01 P. M.; arrives Dillon 6.30 P. M., Latta 6.46 P. M., Pee Dee 7.05 P. M., daily.

Trains on Conway Branch leave Hub at 8.30 A. M., Chadbourn 11.50 A. M.; arrive Conway 2.10 P. M.; leave Conway 2.45 P. M., Chadbourn 5.48 P. M.; arrive Hub 6.32 P. M. Daily except Sunday.

Central of South Carolina Railroad leave Sumter 6.27 P. M., Manning 6.58 P. M.; arrive Lane's 7.36 P. M.; leave Lane's 8.28 A. M., Manning 9.06 A. M.; arrive Sumter 9.35 A. M. Daily.

Georgetown and Western Railroad leave Lane's 9.30 A. M., 7.50 P. M.; arrive Georgetown 12.00 M., 9.14 P. M.; leave Georgetown 7.00 A. M.; 3 P. M. arrive Lane's 8.25 A. M., 5.36 P. M. Daily except Sunday.

Trains on Cheraw and Darlington Railroad leave Florence daily except Sunday at 9.55 A. M.; arrive Darlington 10.28 A. M., Cheraw 11.40 A. M.; Wadesboro 2.23 P. M.; leave Florence daily except Sunday at 5.15 P. M.; arrive Darlington 8.40 P. M., Hartsville 9.35 P. M., Bennettsville 9.36 P. M., Gibson 10.00 P. M. Leave Florence Sunday only at 9.55 A. M.; arrive Darlington 10.27 A. M., Hartsville 11.10 A. M.

Leave Gibson daily except sunday at 6.15 A. M., Bennettsville 6.41 A. M., arrive Darlington 7.40 A. M. Leave Hartsville daily except Sunday at 6.45 A. M.; arrive Darlington 7.30 A. M.; leave Darlington 9.00 A. M.; arrive Florence 9.30 A. M. Leave Wadesboro daily except Sunday 3.00 P. M., Cheraw 5.15 P. M., Darlington 6.30 P. M.; arrive Florence 7.00 P. M. Leave Hartsville Sunday only at 8.30 A. M., Darlington 9.05 A. M.; arrive Florence 9.30 A. M.

Wilson and Fayetteville Branch leave Wilson 2.30 P. M., 11.16 P. M.; arrive Selma 3.15 P. M., Smithfield 3.32 P. M., Dunn 4.00 P. M., Fayetteville 4.47 P. M., 1.14 A. M., Rowland 6.13 P. M.; returning leave Rowland 11.02 A. M., Fayetteville 12.22 P. M., 10.15 P. M., Dunn 1.05 P. M., Smithfield 1.43 P. M., Selma 1.50 P. M., arrive Wilson 2.35 P. M., 12.00 A. M.

Manchester & Augusta Railroad trains leave Sumter 4.29 A. M., Creston 5.17 A. M.; arrive Denmark 6.12 A. M. Returning leave Denmark 4.35 P. M., Creston 5.30 P. M., Sumter 6.25 P. M. Daily.

Pregnalls Branch train leaves Creston 5.45 A. M.; arrive Pregnalls 9.15 A. M. Returning, leaves Pregnalls 10.00 A. M.; arrives Creston 3.50 P. M. Daily except Sunday.

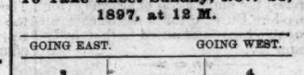
Bishopville Branch trains leave Elliot 11.10 A. M. and 8.05 P. M.; arrive Lucknow 1.00 P. M. and 9.05 P. M. Returning leave Lucknow 6.05 A. M. and 3.00 P. M.; arrive Elliot 8.35 A. M. and 5.30 P. M.

†Daily except Sunday. *Sunday only.

H. M. EMERSON,
Gen'l Passenger Agent.
J. R. KENLY, Gen'l Manager.
T. M. EMERSON, Traffic Manager. de 2 tf

Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad

Time Table No. 3.



To Take Effect Sunday, Nov. 28, 1897, at 12 M.

GOING EAST. Pass'g'r Trains Arrive	Pass'g'r Trains Leave	STATIONS.	GOING WEST. Pass'g'r Trains Arrive	Pass'g'r Trains Leave
P. M.	P. M.		A. M.	A. M.
.....	3 40	Goldsboro	11 05	.....
.....	4 32	Kinston	10 12	.....
5 35	5 45	Newbern	8 57	9 10
6 57	7 02	Morehead City	7 42	7 47
P. M.	P. M.		A. M.	A. M.

Train 4 connects with W. & W. train bound North, leaving Goldsboro at 11.35 A. M., and with Southern Railway train West, leaving Goldsboro 2.00 P. M. and with W. & N. at Newbern for Wilmington and intermediate points.

Train 3 connects with Southern Railway train, arriving at Goldsboro 3.00 P. M. and with W. & W. train from the North at 3.05 P. M. No. 1 train also connects with W. & N. for Wilmington and intermediate points.

jan 1 tf S. L. DILL, Sup't.

NOTICE!

FIFTY HEAD OF
HORSES AND MULES

Just Received To-Day.

And you bet your life you can buy them cheap this week.

Don't Miss this Chance.

F. T. MILLS,

112 and 114 North Water St.
de 24 tf

The Morning Star.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Holiday-Quiet and Stock Taking Close a Year Full of Promise.

IN SPITE OF DEPRESSION.

Southern Failures and Liabilities Are Smaller Than a Year Ago Though Prices of Cotton Have Not Favored Producer Nor Manufacturer.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW YORK, December 31.—Bradstreets of to-morrow will say: Holiday quiet and stock-taking close a year which, while not fully realizing the most sanguine expectations, certainly contained much that was gratifying, and more than this, is full of promise for the year 1898. Following a series of years of alternate panic, stagnation and slow and even painful revival, 1897 presented a large volume of business done as a whole at prices which, while not altogether satisfactory, resulted in a total of trade larger than in any previous year since 1883. Price conditions have not favored the Southern producer of cotton nor the Northern manufacturer of cotton goods. The best reports come from the West, Northwest and the Pacific coast. Prices at the close are as a whole on a higher range than at the opening, advances being most numerous in food products, raw silk and wool, while the decreases are to be reported in raw cotton and cotton goods, nearly all metals, anthracite coal and petroleum.

Railroad interests share in the revival of prosperity with gross and net earnings larger than any year since 1895, and the year 1898 opens with the business community, with the few exceptions noted, in a very cheerful frame of mind.

A heavy falling off in number and in liabilities of individuals, firms or corporations failing was shown in 1897 from 1896 and the four preceding years. A partial return to more or less normal conditions is further indicated by a drop in the per centage of assets to liabilities and by a reduction in the commercial death rate as compared with every year since and including 1893. The total number of failures reported to Bradstreets for the year just closed was 13,099, a decrease of 2,000 failures and over 13 per cent. from 1896; afalliing off of 15 per cent. from the panic year of 1893 and a decrease of more than 2 per cent. from 1891, a year of prosperous business, but of numerous business disarrangements.

In spite of depression in cotton prices, Southern failures and liabilities are smaller than a year ago, while the greatest falling off is reported in the West and the Northwest. The commercial death rate, that is the percentage of those in business failing in 1897, was 1.20 as compared with 1.40 in 1896 and 1.50 in 1893.

Business failures for the Dominion of Canada and New Foundland for the calendar year 1897 amounted to 1,927, with total liabilities of $13,219,000, a falling off of 19 per cent. in liabilities from a year ago.

ALABAMA POPULISTS.

A Convention to be Called in May to Nominate a Full State Ticket.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., December 31.—The Populist State executive committee at a meeting held here yesterday called a State convention to meet on the first Wedneday in May to nominate a full State ticket, including a candidate for Governor and all State officers.

A committee was appointed to select the place for the convention. The commitee issued a long address, urging all Populists to abstain fron participation in the Democratic primaries, denouncing the Democratic party for upholding alleged fraudulent elections and inviting all opposition to the Democracy to unite in support of the Populist ticket. The Populist policy will be "along the middle of the road" lines and a strong bid will, it is said, be made for Republican support, it being understood that the latter party will not put out a State ticket.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

Of Stocks, Receipts and Exports of Cotton.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW YORK, December 31.—The following is the comparative cotton statement for the week ending Dec. 31:

	1897.	1896.
Net receipts at all U. S ports during the week.....	306,577	217,480
Total receipts to this date.....	5,506,684	4,870,213
Exports for week..	184,152	264,040
Total exports to date.....	3,711,654	3,375,764
Stock in all U. S. ports.....	1,218,550	1,263,215
Stock at all interior towns.....	624,345	564,065
Stock in Liverpool,	354,000	990,000
American afloat for Great Britain...	330,000	330,000

The Supreme court of California has refused the application of attorneys for Theodore Durratu for a certificate of probable cause submitted to that body yesterday.

A despatch from Hong Kong, says there is the greatest activity in the navy yards there, while profound secrecy is maintained. The movements of the British fleet and its whereabouts are not known at Hong Kong.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

ROYAL

ROYAL KING POWDER

BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

CUBAN WAR NEWS.

Conspiracy Against Spanish Rule Discovered in Pinar Del Rio Province.

RIOTERS AT MANY PLACES.

Demonstrations Intended as a Protest Against Autonomy—Great Suffering in Western Cuba—Many Thousands of People Starving.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

HAVANA, December 31, via Key West, Fla., December 31.—Details have been received from Spanish sources of a conspiracy against Spanish rule said to have been discovered in the province of Pinar del Rio. It is narrated that 1,500 men employed in the fields of Clay, Brock & Co., tobacco growers, and who had been disarmed, conspired to join the insurgents. Their leaders have been imprisoned in Morro Castle.

On Christmas night there were riots similar to those which occurred at Havana, in Matanzas and other towns. The demonstrations were intended as a protest against autonomy. At Matanzas crowds cheered for the United States, President McKinley and annexation.

A majority of the conservative mayors have been removed from towns in the interior. They represent seventy-five per cent. of the taxpayers.

A letter from an important insurgent chief says that about 150,000 insurgents and reconcentrados have died in western Cuba up to Santa Clara. He also expresses regret at the suffering endured by the insurgents in the field.

Dr. Delfin calls attention, in the *Diario de la Marina*, to the necessity of sending about fifty physicians into the interior of the island, provided with medicine chests and vaccine. The step, he said, is to save from certain death innumerable human beings who are dying of hunger and neglect. Dr. Delfin adds that over 500,000 persons, mostly children and women, have died of famine in the fields. For those who have survived something has been done to save them from perishing in the near future. It is not advisable, the Spanish say, to entrust the distribution of food and money to the reconcentrados.

Besides the pangs of famine, the reconcentrados are suffering from small pox, dysentery, malaria, etc., which threatens extermination. Therefore Dr. Delfin says it is necessary to send medicine with the food and physicians. By sending about fifty physicians to the towns most affected innumerable human beings can be rescued from death.

It is estimated that 100,000 reconcentrados are starving, sick unto death, and in need of shelter.

It is reported that an important engagement occurred last Monday in the Mulata Mountains, province of Pinar del Rio, and that large numbers were killed on both sides. One important insurgent was captured and brought to Havana where he is imprisoned, incommunicado.

OHIO SENATORSHIP.

Great Gathering of Partisans to Take an Active Part in the Contest.

SKIRMISH AT ITS HEIGHT.

Developments Decidedly Favorable to Hanna on the Surface—A Surmise That His Managers Consider the Situation Desperate.

COLUMBUS, December 31.—Nearly all the members-elect of the Legislature have arrived in this city to-night and the Senatorial skirmish is at its height. Not since the Senatorial election of six years ago, when the Sherman-Foraker flight was on, have there been so many politicians in the city at one time. Many have come entirely out of curiosity, but a large number are here to take active part in the contest. The anti-Hanna Republicans actually in evidence are few in numbers. Charles L. Kutz, Esq., who is leading the opposition to Senator Hanna, to-day assumed personal charge of the anti-Hannaites at the Great Southern Hotel. The activity at the Hanna headquarters at three leading hotels was even more formidable.

The developments of the day were decidedly favorable to Mr. Hanna, on the surface, at least. The arrival of Mr. Hanna was a surprise to those not in touch with the managers of Mr. Hanna's interests, as he was not expected, according to previous announcements, until Sunday. This change of programme was construed by some to indicate that Mr. Hanna's managers considered the situation desperate, but there was nothing to indicate that this surmise was well founded. On the contrary, Major Dick and his co-workers at the Hanna headquarters were in the most cheerful spirits and took a more hopeful view of the situation than yesterday. There was some rejoicing over the public declaration of Representatives Redkey, of Highland county and Smith, of Delaware county, that they would vote for Mr. Hanna. Both these representatives had been claimed by the opposition. Mr. Redkey comes from a county where it was expected that the majority of his party would endorse his stand against Mr. Hanna, if maintained. Representative Smith had a war of words with Mr. Kurtz as a result of his desertion from the anti-Hanna ranks. Representatives Mason and Bramley of Cuyahoga, now stand practically alone in their open opposition to Mr. Hanna, although they do not present the strength of the anti-Hanna Republicans. The others have up to this time kept closely under cover. Representative Mason is the avowed candidate of Mr. Kurtz for Speaker in opposition to Mr. Boxwell.

The Madrid *Imparcial* calls upon the Government to "repel every action of the United States savoring of intervention in Cuba," and adds: "There exists a widespread sentiment against the conduct of the United States. But we do not think General Weyler is the most acceptable exponent thereof.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

THE FLAG INSULTED.

High-Handed Proceedings of the Crew of a Mexican Gunboat.

STARS AND STRIPES DOWN.

Forcible Possession Taken of Clipperton Island While in Possession of Citizens of the United States.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., December 31.—The steamer Albion arrived to-day from a month's cruise down the coast, and her passengers tell of a rather high-handed proceeding at Clipperton island on the part of the Mexican gunboat Democrata, being no less than the hauling down of the stars and stripes by an armed force landed for the purpose and in spite of the protests of the men there employed, and the raising of the Mexican flag. The story told is as follows:

"Our trip down the coast as far as San Domingo was void of any particular incident," said Rossie Howard, one of the passengers. "On our return we took on a sailor at Acapulco, and from him I learned that he had been brought to that port by the Mexican gunboat Democrata from Clipperton island. He, with two other men, had been employed by a guano company to take charge of about 4,000 tons of guano that was stored in the warehouses on the island, and when they were landed there some nine months ago they hoisted the American flag and notified the Secretary of State of their action.

"On December 14th, the Democrata dropped anchor a short distance from the island and sent a boat's crew of marines to the island, but on trying to land the boat was dashed against a coral reef and suffered considerable damage. Finally, the marines were landed, and after an official ceremony the Stars and Stripes were hauled down from the flag-pole that had been erected by the Americans, and in its place the Mexican flag was hoisted.

"Having taken formal possession, the marines withdrew and notified the men who remained on the island not to allow any one to take away the guano under penalty of violating the Mexican laws. The island is about eight hundred miles off the Mexican coast, almost due west of Acapulco and is known as Anatoll, or Coral Reef. When the marines landed to take possession of the island in behalf of Mexico they were fully armed and prepared to do battle with whatever resistance might be offered.

MEXICO CITY, December 31.—Official intelligence received from Mazatlan shows that when the Mexican gunboat El Democrata arrived at Clipperton island, which is thirty miles west of Acapulco, it was found that a party of Americans had raised the American flag and had coolly appropriated all the guano beds where they were operating. They had built houses and permanently established themselves. The Democrata had a very stormy passage and found the island of very difficult access and a boat-load of Mexican marines was upset in getting through. They saved themselves by swimming, and a Mexican flag was carried ashore by Julian Santos, the stoker of the gunboat, who ran the risk of being devoured by sharks that abound in those waters.

Captain Genesta ordered the American flag hauled down and the Mexican flag raised, there being little protest on the part of Americans representing a guano exploring company. This formality having been accomplished, the gunboat returned to Mazatlan. There are about 20,000 tons of guano on the island, valued at $300,000 in gold. Representations showing that the action of the gnano company is one of mere usurpation will be made. Clipperton island is undoubtedly in Mexican territory, although not settled by Mexicans. There has been no excitement over the matter.

MOVEMENT OF COTTON.

Secretary Hester's Statement—Visible Supply—Receipts and Stocks at the Ports—Exports, Etc.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW ORLEANS, December 31.—Secretary Hester's weekly statement places the total visible supply of cotton at 4,272,662 bales, against 4,146,455 last week and 4,244,733 last year. Of the former amount 4,059,662 is American cotton.

Secretary Hester's cotton exchange statement issued to-day covers the monthly movement to December 31st. The total for December was 1,974,446 bales, against 1,596,291 last year. The amount of the crop brought into sight for the four months from September to December, inclusive, is 862,000 over last year. The movement from the 1st of September to December 31st includes total receipts at all United States delivery ports 5,558,287 bales, against 4,958,899 last year; net overland movemeut by railways, across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers, 682,865 bales, against 561,242 last year; Southern mill takings, exclusive of quantity consumed at Southern outports, 457,081, against 440,301 last year, and interior stocks in excess of those held at the commencement of the season 560,089, against 437,750 last year.

Northern spinners took during December 392,883 bales against 355,132 last year, increasing their total for the four months to 1,276,388 against 1,006,988.

Foreign exports for the first four months of the season have been 3,767,946 bales, showing an increse over last season of 334,825 bales. Stocks at the seaboard for the twenty-nine leading Southern interior markets on December 31st were 1,863,138, against 1,846,556 the same date last year. Including ports and interior towns left over from the previous season and the number of bales of the current crop brought into sight during the four months, the supply has been 7,376,587, against 6,736,741 last year.

The movement into sight for the past week has been 398,467 bales, against 311,578 bales for the same week last year.

WARM WIRELETS.

Fire in Lebanon, Tenn., thirty miles from Nashville, destroyed eight of the principal business houses in the town. The losses aggregate $75,000, insurance $70,000.

Two men were killed and three othes injured at the Warden boiler works, Philadelphia, by a shifting engine which was backed into the yard of the works in a careless manner.

Owners of the cotton cloth and weaving mills in New Bedford, Mass., will post notices of a 10 per cent. reduction in wages to take effect January 17th. It is understood the reduction will apply to all salaries. The cut down will affect nearly 10,000 operatives.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

Butler on Republican and Populist Fusion in the Next Campaign.

SENATOR IS VERY FOXY.

Governor Russell Invited to Attend the River and Harbor Improvement Convention—The Blind Institution—State Geologist Holmes to Visit Smith's Island.

[*Special Star Correspondence.*]

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 31.

Senator Butler arrived in the city last evening and your correspondent asked him about the statement accredited to him, that fusion with the Republicans would be conditioned on the endorsement of Governor Russell's administration by the Republican convention.

"I don't remember to have made any such statement, or one of similar purport," replied the Senator. The Senator then asked your correspondent if the gentleman who made the statement approved it. He was told he did not. "Then it seems," said the Senator, "that his admiration for the Governor had decreased in exact proportion with the popular admiration of his administration.

When asked if the Republicans in the State would be required to endorse Russell's administration as a condition to fusion, Senator Butler said: "That is to presume that there will be Republican-Populist co-operation, or that the Populists will co-operate at all, which question is not settled and will not until the People's party meets in convention. I think, however, you can safely say that the People's party will make a straight fight for principle, or if there is any co-operation at all it will be for the advancement of principles, and those principles will be the essence of Jeffersonian Democracy. In short the People's party platform is the only party platform in existence that stands for Jeffersonian Democracy applied to present conditions.

Governor Russell is in receipt of an invitation to attend the River and Harbor Improvement Convention, which meets in Memphis January 4th next.

The Governor said in the course of a speech to the pupils of the Blind Institution that the $57,000 appropriation, specially made for the construction of the new buildings will be paid soon. Treasurer Worth says he knows nothing about it. He says he hasn't the funds.

Superintendent Ray, of the Institution, says that there will be an enrollment of 300 at the two institutions here by next week. This is an increase of 90 since Prof. Ray took charge of the Institution 18 month ago.

[*Special Star Telegram*]

State Geologist Holmes went to Smith's Island to-day, where he will do special work and make report to probable purchasers.

WILL REDUCE WAGES.

The Decision of Leading Cotton Manufacturing Firms in New England States.

ABOUT ELEVEN PER CENT.

The Cut-Down Will Take Effect January 17th in Mills of Rhode Island and Connecticut—Largely Due to Southern Competition.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., December 31.—After their decision to the last in the hope that in the meantime conditions might change so as to render the step unnecessary, the agents of the leading cotton manfacturing corporations in this State decided to-day to reduce wages. The cut down will average eleven per cent.; it will take effect January 17th, and notices to that effect will be posted Monday in the mills of B. B. & R. Knight, the Lonsdale Company, the Manville Social and other companies controlled by the Lippitts and smaller corporations throughout the State.

Mr. J. W. Danielsen, of the Quinnebag Company, Lockwood Manufacturing Company and other corporations, with mills in Eastern Connecticut, said the reduction would take effect at this mill on January 17th, although the amount of the reduction had not yet been decided upon.

The other Eastern Connecticut corporations will take similar action, and mills operating about two million spindles in this State and Massachusetts, and the earnings of between 30,000 operativcs will be effected by this decision of the Providence agents.

Many firms oppose the reductions and would have favored running shorter hours, but they say they cannot afford to keep up the cost of production and then curtail the output when the other mills are turning out the regular quantity at 10 per cent. less than cost. The exact amount of the reduction is not fixed yet, but it will be on the same line as in other cities.

Comparatively few of the Rhode Island factories turn out a product that competes with that of the Fall River mills, but the majority, including all the heavy goods mills, come in direct competition with New Bedford, and so when the mill treasurers of that city announced their decision, it rendered action by the local agents imperative. Cotton manufacturing is Rhode Island's greatest industry.

Col. R. H. J. Goddard, in discussing the cut-down, said: "I should have preferred to keep wages where they are and run shorter hours for say four months, but as the rest decided to run full time, we shall be obliged to do the same. No doubt, the first action taken in Fall River was largely due to Southern competition. The low wages and standard of living with the longer hours there make it very hard for us to compete with them. In our mills wages were at most never higher than at the present time, except in the period of infliction during the war. And the working man lives cheaper to-day than ever before. I do not think that the cotton manufacturing business will ever leave New England for the South, but things will have to equalize themselves. The South has no advantage over us here other than wages and length of working hours."

DON'T RUN ANY RISKS about health. Avoid coughs, colds, fevers, pneumonia, and all other similar ailments by keepin gyour blood rich and pure with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

HOOD'S PILLS are purely vegetable and do not purge, pain or gripe. All druggists.

CANADIAN COTTON MILLS.

Are Doing and Have Done a Lively Trade—Talk of Putting Up Prices.

By Telegraph to The Morning Star.

MONTREAL, Dec. 31.—While the cotton mills in the New England States are in a very bad way, owing to the keen competition of the Southern mills, the Canadian mills are doing, and have done, a lively trade. The knitting mills have turned envious eyes on the cotton mills and they have attributed the great success of the latter to the combine existing in the industry. So the knitting mill people think they will try a combination, also. Prices must be put up and the output regulated. As the Canadian wool crop was smaller this year than last, and as prices have been too low for any decent business for a long time, the wool men have taken advantage of the shorter supplies and the greater demand to put up prices. This naturally affects the knitting mills. Their raw material is more expensive now, and they think the time has come to better their position all round.

Mail box robbers have been operating in Cleveland, Ohio., on a large scale. It is reported that checks and drafts aggregating about $50,000 were stolen from the mail boxes on Water street, on the 16th instant.

F. P. Sargent, Grand Master of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen has sent a lengthy communication to President McKinley, protesting against the appointment of Judge Paxson of Pennsylvania as Inter-State Commerce Commissioner.

Storm Warning.

The southwest storm signal was hoisted here yesterday at 10.30 a. m. The storm centre was in West Virginia, moving northeast. Much colder weather was indicated.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by R. R. Bellamy. †

DUSINESS LOCALS.

☞ NOTICES For Rent or Sale, Lost or Found, Wants, and other short Miscellaneous Advertisements inserted in this Department, in solid Nonpareil Type, on first or fourth page, at Publisher's option, for 1 cent per word each insertion; but no advertisement taken for less than 20 cents. Terms positively cash in advance.

Bookkeeper Wanted—Address X, STAR office. de 30 tf

J. E. Justice, Tinner and Sheet Iron Worker, Shipsmith, &c. Painting and Stove Work. Leave orders at 716 Castle street. jan 1 1t

Wife—Where did you get this last Tea? it is the best you ever got. Why, from the Atlantic Tea Co., of course; they always have the best and cheapest Teas and Coffees in the city. Always buy from them at 618 North Fourth street. de 30 tf

Lost—Gold-lock Bracelet on Dock between Fifth and Sixth streets. Suitable reward for return to this office. jan 1 1t

Lost on the 31st inst., open face gold front Watch, old style key wind. Finder will get suitable reward by returning same to C. E. Collins, 119 South Front street. jan 1 1t*

Money Made and time saved by new process for Parching Peanuts. I can roast large quantities at a time. It will pay you to let me roast for you. Write for particulars. A. E. Blake Wilmington, N. C. de 23 tf

Ladies Wanted to travel and appoint agents for old established house. Permanent position; $40 per month and all expenses. Z., Box 82, Philadelphia, Pa. de 18 D&W tf

Tonsorial Parlor.—Shaving and Hair Dressing. Prompt and polite attention. Hair Cut 20 cents, Shave (without Bay Rum) 10 cents. Wm. Tienken, 17 Princess street. de 17 1m

A Word to the Wise is sufficient. The best Fruit and Confectionerries, served daintily, can be found at Andrew Mavionichels, 705 North Fourth street. Bell 'Phone 246, Inter-State 191. A large shipment of fine Jamaica Bananas just received. dec 16 tf

Fresh Ground Graham Flour, Big Hominy, N. C. Head Rice, Choice Hay, and all kinds of Feed; lowest prices. Jno. S. McEachern. Bell Phone 92, Inter-State Phone No. 92. de 9 tf

For Best Prices and prompt returns ship your Country Produce to M. C. Benson, 108 Dock street. Beef Cattle, Milch Cows and Pork a specialty. dec 1 tf

Where Can I Ship Country Produce to the best advantage is a question that is puzzling you. Settle it by shipping to L. Tate Bowden, 6 Princess street. Careful handling and prompt returns. Eggs for the city trade. no 30 tf

Country Merchants—You will find it to your interest to ship your Produce, Poultry, Eggs, &c., to H. J. Bierman, Produce Commission Merchant, 105 South Front street, Wilmington, N. C. nov 28 tf

Hayden, P. H., has in stock Buggies, Road Carts and Harness of all kinds. Repairing done by skillful workmen on short notice. Opposite new Court House. no 25 tf

Photographs.—For finest quality, latest styles, best material, finest finish, lowest prices, call on U. C. Ellis, 114 Market street, Wilmington, N. C. Cloudy weather makes no difference. oc 29 tf

Always Reliable.—The best and freshest goods at lowest market prices. Cabbage, Apples, Butter, Bananas, Crackers, Candies, Lemons, Potatoes, etc. Retailers will find it to their advantage to ask my prices before placing their order. A. S. Winstead, 115 Second street. Phone 206. sep 21 tf

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS

New Year

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS.

HALL & PEARSALL,

Wholesale Grocers,

Nutt and Mulberry Streets.

jan 1 D&W tf

Opera House.

ONE WEEK COMMENCING JANUARY 3RD.

Frank B. Rhodes' Merrymakers,

In High Class Farce Comedy.

Grand Opening, Monday Evening, in

"A Hot Reception,"

AND A STRONG VAUDEVILLE, ALSO.

Change of Bill Nightly. Monday night, one lady, when holding a lady's free ticket, will be admitted with each paid Reserved Seat 50c ticket.

Popular Prices—10, 20 and 30 cents.

Matinee Saturday, 10 and 30 cents. de 31 3t

Schedule "B" Tax.

MERCHANTS, TOBACCO DEALERS, LIQUOR DEALERS, LIVERY STABLE KEEPERS and others, who, under Schedule "B" of the Revenue Act are required to make returns to the undersigned, take notice that the above Tax is due and payable the first ten days in January.

Please settle promptly and save costs.

CHARLES W. NORWOOD,

jan 1 3t Register of Deeds.

The White House Coffee,

FOR WHICH I AM SOLE AGENT, IS A RARE COMBINATION OF

Mocha and Java.

If you once get a taste of the White House you will always use it.

QUEEN OLIVES IN BULK.

GERMAN PRETZELS.

S. W. Sanders,

At The Unlucky Corner.

jan 1 tf

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

"LOCK YOUR BARN DOOR"

BEFORE YOUR HORSE IS STOLEN. DON'T wait till it is too late, but get your lock, hinges and fittings in good order, at a reasonable expense, by purchasing them from J. W. MURCHISON, who always keeps a large assortment of all kinds of STABLE HARDWARE, HINGES, LOCKS, SHOVELS, SPADES, HAY KNIVES, CUTTING MACHINES, PITCHFORKS, etc.

See our PENINSULAR STEEL RANGE, the best on earth. A full line of Cooking and Heating Stoves always on hand.

Our line of AGATE WARE is the largest and most varied in the city.

Give us a call and we will please you.

J. W. MURCHISON,

jan 1 tf ORTON BUILDING.

We Have on Hand

A Complete and Varied Stock of Fresh Groceries.

Canned Goods,

Grain, Hay,

Lime, Cement,

Nails, &c.

Excellent Seed Oats.

WORTH & WORTH.

jan 1 tf

VALUABLE

Mercantile Business

FOR SALE!

A VALUABLE MERCANTILE BUSINESS, consisting of Stock, General Merchandise, Store Fixtures and Store House to rent three years with the privilege of five or more years, being the business owned and run by the late L. L. Mallard at Wallace, N. C., about thirty-eight miles from Wilmington, N. C., on the W. & W. R. R., one of the

Finest Trucking and Cotton Sections

in North Carolina. Business large and successful. Bids invited for the purchase of same until January 15th, 1898. NO PREFERENCE GIVEN ANY ONE. Terms Cash or first-class security. Business open every day for inspection at Wallace.

Book accounts will be sold also if agreeable. A good class of credit and cash customers.

Address all communications to me at Kenansville, N. C. Creditors are requested to send in claims properly proven for examination.

JAMES W. BLOUNT,

Executor to will of late L. L. Mallard.

December 23, 1897.

P. S.—The right reserved to accept or reject any or all bids. J. W. B.

de 25 9t de 25 28 30 jan 1 2 4 6 8 10

Δ 4 BAND MACHINE NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 9,999—PRICE 40c.

THIS MACHINE NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 999,999—PRICE 60c.

Start the New Year with an eye to business and economy by placing your order with us for your supply of Rubber Stamps. They are no longer a luxury but a necessity.

WILMINGTON STAMP WORKS,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

Bell Phone 940. de 12 tf

NOTICE!

Sale of Valuable Real Estate.

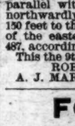
BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE OF THE SUPERior Court of New Hanover county, made at the September term, 1897, in a cause pending wherein Martha F. Maunder, executrix, is plaintiff, and F. Meier at al, are defendants, I will at 12 o'clock M., on Monday the 10th day of January, 1898, sell at public auction, for cash, at the Court House Door in the county of New Hanover, aforesaid, the lot of land and premises described in the complaint, situate in the city of Wilmington, N. C., said described as follows: Beginning at a point in the southern line of Market street 60 feet westwardly from the southwestern intersection of Market and Fifteenth streets, and running thence along said line of Market street westwardly 30 feet, thence southwardly and parallel with Fifteenth street 150 feet to the northern line of Meadow street, thence eastwardly along said line of Meadow street and parallel with Market street 30 feet, and thence northwardly and parallel with Fifteenth street 150 feet to the beginning, the same being a part of the eastern ends of Lots 1, 2 and 3 in Block 487, according to the plan of said city.

This the 9th day of December, 1897.

ROBERT C. ORRELL, Commissioner.

A. J. MARSHALL, Attorney. de 19 20t

FOR RENT.



TWO HOUSES ON SIXTH BEtween Dock and Orange. Modern improvements.

House on Dock between Seventh and Eighth streets.

House on Eighth between Market and Princess streets. Modern improvements.

House on Princess between Ninth and Tenth streets.

House on Third between Walnut and Red Cross streets.

Two Stores on Water street.

Store corner Fourth and Nun streets.

House on Princess between Fifth and Sixth streets. Modern improvements.

House on Second between Dock and Orange streets with ten rooms.

Apply to

D. O'CONNOR,

de 15 tf Real Estate Agent.

You Can Grow Bulbs

Just as good as the best of us. We have a few left, and with the instructions we give free, you can succeed beyond your expectations.

James D. Nutt,

The Druggist.

See the very latest in our window for to-day only. jan 1 tf

DUCRO'S ALIMENTARY ELIXIR

The Morning Star.

THE OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER IN NORTH CAROLINA.

CHEAPEST DAILY OF ITS CLASS.

Note the following Reduced Rates of Subscription:

One Year, by Mail,	$5.00
Six Months, by Mail,	2.50
Three Months, by Mail,	1.25
Two Months, by Mail,	1.00
One Month, by Mail,	.50

DELIVERED, BY CARRIERS, TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS AT 45 CENTS PER MONTH.

Address,

WM. H. BERNARD,

Editor and Proprietor,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

The C. W. POLVOGT CO.,

No. 9 North Front Street.

Dry Goods and Carpets.

Will offer during this coming week the balsnce of their Doll Stock and Fancy Goods AT COST.

ALSO special prices on Woollen Underwear, Blankets, Ladies' and Children's Cloaks.

Sole Agents for W. B. Corsets and Standard Patterns.

The C. W. Polvogt Co.

jan 1 tf

For a Holiday Present

CHEAP, WORTHLESS TOYS WILL BEAR NO COMPARISON TO AN ACCOUNT IN

The Wilmington Savings & Trust Company.

Possibly at this time you are trying to think of a Suitable Present to give your child. Let us advise you—do not get them a worthless toy that will soon be broken up and forgotten, but start them an

Account in the Wilmington Savings & Trust Company.

It will encourage them to save more. We receive deposits as small as 25 cents, and as soon as it is increased to $5.00 will begin to draw interest at rate of 4 per cent. jan 1 tf

Our Carpets Must Go.

THE BEST ALL WOOL CARPETS AT 50c per yard.

VELVET AND TAPESTRY CARPETS FROM 45c TO 85c PER YARD.

Red and White Flannel at New York Cost.

BLANKETS AND COMFORTS AT A BIG REDUCTION.

Call and see us, and we will save you money on any goods you may need.

J. J. Shepard,

jan 1 tf No. 18 Market Street.

NOVELTIES AND TOYS.

We have an extra large stock this year and have not the room to carry them over, consequently will have to dispose of same before the Holidays are over.

A WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT.

MYERS & LEWIS,

jan 1 tf N. E. Corner Front and Market Streets.

Balance of Stock of

Christmas Goods

Less Than Cost.

PARTIES BUYING PRESENTS FOR CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS WILL DO WELL TO SEE US.

THE GREATEST BARGAINS IN CAPES.

$ 3.00	PLUSH CAPES,	$2.25
5.00	" "	3.00
7.50	" "	4.25
10.00	" "	6.50

CAPES, Trimmed with Braid and Fur, 50c up.

J. H. REHDER & CO.,

jan 1 tf NEAR FOURTH STREET BRIDGE.

A Complete and Varied STOCK OF

Drugs, Druggists' Sundries,

Chemicals,

Proprietary Medicines,

Seeds for the Season, &c.

ROBERT R. BELLAMY,

Wholesale and Retail Druggist,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

no 14 tf

New and Fresh Groceries

TO BEGIN THE NEW YEAR WITH, WE HAVE A COMPLETE STOCK OF

Heavy Groceries.

We are better able to supply the demands of the Retail Merchants than at any time past. One of our New Year resolutions is to buy close and thereby benefit those that are looking for

The Best Qualities at the Lowest Prices.

Remember that we keep up and respectfully solicit your orders for 1898.

W. B. COOPER,

Wholesale Grocer and Commission Merchant,

jan 1 tf Wilmington, N. C.

PIANOS!

We are Ready for the New Year with the Most Varied and

Complete Stock of Pianos

Ever Exhibited in the City. Every Instrument has been

Carefully Selected,

And the Prices are in Reach of All.

E. VAN LAER,

402 North Fourth Street.

Open Evenings. de 15 tf

Put at the Head

OF YOUR

New Year's Resolutions

that hereafter you will buy your

Drugs and Toilet Articles From

J. HICKS BUNTING,

Wholesale and Retail Druggist,

jan 1 tf Y. M. C. A. Building.